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Diana Burn, Founder

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9. Tip Accessories, bow tie, £9
10. Vale P. London, handstitched leather bag, £109
11. Coco Barclay, thimble key rings hand made with vintage cloisonné thimbles and leather tassels, £20
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13. Nuts4Honey, jar of honey, £5
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16. Cedarlia, Scandinavian style stoneware tea-light houses, £20
17. Eyellusion Adventure, wheels kaleidoscope, from £30
18. Beadoir, bead kits for busy kids, from £4.95

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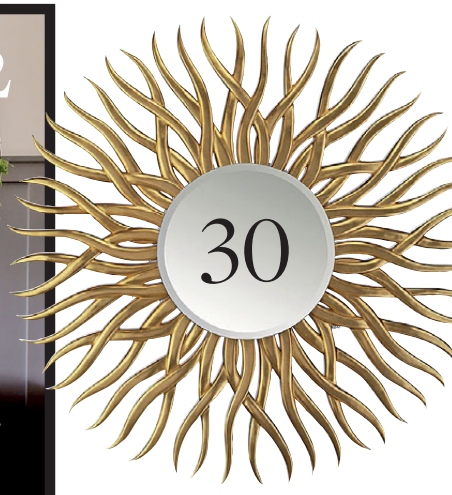
COVER IMAGE: LAUREN CUTHBERTSON AS THE SUGAR PLUM FAIRY IN THE NUTCRACKER. PHOTO BY TRISTRAM KENTON. IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE



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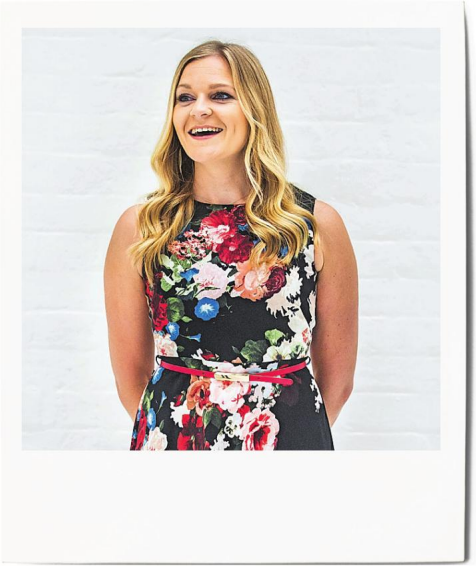
Distributed in Dulwich, Crystal Palace and surrounding areas

Letter from the EDITOR



ELANOR TRAVERS (HAIR) AND ERIN FULLER (MAKE UP), GINA CONWAY PRIVÉ; GINACONWAYPRIVE.COM. PHOTO BY TOM DUNKLEY

Some people really do go all out for Christmas, don't they? I mean, John Lewis even put a man on the moon. I must say though, I much prefer Lidl's festive campaign – the School of Christmas – where they tackle those tangled fairy lights and teach Santas how to 'ho ho ho'. It's all about making Christmas that bit easier, and that's what we're striving for in this issue. We've asked a whole bunch of local experts for their advice, from tips on getting the turkey right to tree decorators who can help lighten the load, and even – what the heck – ordering in Christmas dinner. All this leaves you free to spend more time with friends and family, sledding, snoozing, dancing, playing charades, squabbling over Monopoly, watching *Dumbo* or whatever it is you get up to over the silly season.

If you're struggling to get into the spirit of things, however, there are plenty of local events that will help you out there. From ice skating through twinkly, fairy-lit trees at Canary Wharf to the beloved Greenwich Theatre panto and the traditional lights switch-on at Blackheath Village Day. Find these and more on page 15.

Or perhaps you prefer to keep busy – and active – over that hazy, lazy Christmas period. If that's the case, we've sought out five fantastic local high intensity workouts to keep you fit through the festivities. High intensity interval training (HIIT) is a great fat-burner because it's performed at such an intense level that your body spends the rest of the day expending energy to recover, so you'll burn loads more fat while sitting on the sofa later that evening than if you'd been for an hour's run. Essentially, this means you can cut the time you spend at the gym in half and still keep the mince pie damage at bay. We don't ask for much, we just want to have it all...

Here's wishing you a very Merry Christmas!

Victoria

Victoria Purcell, Editor

Our pick of December's most unmissable events, page 17

'Tis the season for Champagne & Fromage... we check it out on page 61

Our nine-page Christmas gift guide starts on page 29

CHRISTMAS MADE EASY

Local experts share their insider tips on how to have a fun, fabulous, stress-free Christmas

The turkey

Rosie Dugard of dugardanddaughters.com, Herne Hill

What qualities should you look for when buying your turkey?
A free-range bronze turkey from a reputable farm. You want it to have been slow-grown, fed an additive-free diet, dry-plucked and hung, as this all adds to the rich flavours. It will cost more than a frozen or non free-range bird, but it's worth it when it comes to the eating! Our turkeys come from Nick & Jacob at Fosse Meadows Farm, we work with them week in week out as we stock their free-range chickens, so we have a great relationship and know their free-range birds are top quality in terms of taste and welfare.

What size turkey should you buy?
This can be tricky! Appetites vary and some festive feasters want leftovers for late-night turkey sandwiches, whereas others are happy to finish the bird in one go... but a reasonable guide for whole turkeys is 500g per person, which should leave some tasty leftovers.

What's your top turkey cooking tip?
Keep a Christmas dinner diary. Write up your bird weight, cooking times, side dishes, party size and make notes after the meal. It's a long-term project but it does start to pay off.

What's your top tip for a fun, fabulous, stress-free Christmas?
Bucks Fizz for breakfast always works in our house!

Keep a Christmas dinner diary. It's a long-term project but it does pay off

The groceries

Marisa Leaf of hubbub.co.uk, which delivers from small shops to your door

What's the idea behind Hubbub?
Hubbub brings the best small shops, market stalls and producers together in one simple delivery. We make it easy for people to enjoy the best food in their area and help small shops challenge the dominance of the supermarkets.

Why does it beat supermarket shopping?
Behind the 100-plus independent shops, producers and market stalls that we work with are people who truly know food. Everything is made, sourced and sold with care and expertise, whether they're the only shop selling a particular cheese, or have spent years honing their mince pie-making skills. It's a world away from the bland products chosen for shelf life and volume in the supermarkets. Plus, you can buy all your Christmas food from the comfort of your home and have it delivered in a convenient one-hour slot, right up to Christmas Eve.

Who are some of your most popular local producers?
Our customers are huge fans of Lordship Lane's shops – we work with Franklins Farm Shop, Burro e Salvia Pastificio and Moxon's Fishmonger. Nearby, there's beer and hot sauce haven Hop Burns & Black and Herne Hill's treasure trove, Mimosa. We also deliver from some of Borough Market's best loved producers including Ginger Pig butchers, Cannon & Cannon charcutiers and Ted's Veg.

GIFTING

Katharine MacLaverty of rigbyandmac.com, with three stores in Dulwich

Do you prefer online shopping or getting out to the shops?
I like a combination of both. If I have very exact ideas about what I want then I'll usually buy it online from the comfort of my sofa with a glass of wine. But I like to go to interesting shops and browse for gifts that the recipient isn't expecting. I only shop locally as I much prefer the experience and it gets me in the mood for festivities. Online shopping is convenient but it can't replicate the feeling of coming through the doors laden with gifts, rolls of wrapping paper and mince pies.

What lovely gifting brands have you discovered as buyer for rigbyandmac.com?
We absolutely love the new ceramics from Danish brand Broste. They make beautiful gifts and their tableware is gorgeous if you're planning to use Christmas entertaining as an excuse to buy something new!

What's your tip for a fun, stress-free Christmas?
I like to plan a trip to the local shops and markets with a couple of girl friends including lots of coffee and cake. I always go to our Christmas shopping evenings too, which definitely make me feel more Christmassy. Oh and get the mulled wine in!

Katharine MacLaverty with Dan Rigby, aka Rigby & Mac

The perfume

Lawrence Roullier White of roullierwhite.com, East Dulwich

Where do you start when buying a fragrance for somebody else?
Work out what they like to wear. Ask what they're wearing that day, then you can start to talk in more general terms about the sort of smells they like or don't like. Next, ask an expert – people who know perfumes will be able to point out the scents that strike a chord based on the recipient's likes and dislikes.

If people are really stuck, what all-time classics you would recommend?
There are several men's scents that I've never known any man – or woman – not to like; Eight and Bob, Mediterraneo by Carthusia, Fougere Royale by Houbigant and Number 14 by Gruhme all spring to mind. For women, Aedes de Venustas' signature scent always delights and it is impeccably presented. Everyone loves rose scents at the moment – Rosamunda by Laboratorio Olfattivo has a divine steely note, Rosier by Nancy Meiland is gorgeous and Black Jade by Lubin is just a joy. Part of the pleasure of giving perfume as a gift is that people love to try something new. Ask for a sample phial too so that the recipient can try it without opening the box.

What's your top tip for a fun, fabulous, stress-free Christmas?
Shop locally! It's much more fun, more money circulates locally and you'll be doing your bit for the area you love!

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Sam Lyle of pinesandneedles.com, which offers a tree-decoration service

Why is tree provenance important?
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What are your top tree-decorating tips?
Make sure the tree is in a very secure stand, preferably water holding, as it will keep the tree fresh for longer. Test the lights before putting them on the tree and then decorate colour by colour to ensure you get an even spread.

What happens once Christmas is over?
They're chipped, recycled and go back into the circle of life! All the trees we cut down are replaced with new seedlings – in fact we plant far more than we cut.

The tipples

Manish Utton-Mishra of goodtaste-fd.co.uk, Crystal Palace

If you could only have three bottles of wine over Christmas, what would you recommend?
You just have to start with a good fizz, whether it's a Cava, Prosecco, Champagne, English Sparkling, Crémant or any of the other numerous types of sparkling wines. Follow that with a nicely oaked Chardonnay for the turkey or chicken, then serve a good late bottle vintage port or an aged tawny port with the cheese course.

If people prefer beer with their Christmas dinner, what goes well with turkey?
You can't go wrong with a good Belgian Trippel Ale, Blonde or a Dubbel. They come in attractive looking 750ml bottles so they look great on the table. And, more importantly, they're amazing all-rounders with Christmas fare. Also, on the whole, they will satisfy wine lovers who might sneer at beer!

Sticking with beer, what would stand up to a good Stilton?
As a general rule always try and pair stronger flavoured foods with a similarly punchy drink. I always have a big stout with my big blue cheeses, but my colleague favours big IPAs with them. Go for the Imperial ones, such as Magic Rock Brewery's Bearded Lady, or Lervig's and Evil Twin's collaboration, Big ASS Money Stout. The former is a mere 10.5%, the latter a beast of a stout at 17.5%!

Relax and treat yourself

Julia Salisbury of neroli-skincare.co.uk, Honor Oak

What treatment would you recommend for stressed Christmas elves?
A luxury foot treatment soothes the soul and soles! A treatment like neroli's Tropical Paradise Pedicure (65 minutes, £50) affords you guilt-free me time, relaxes the muscles and tendons, nourishes and heals dry skin and leaves you ready for the dance floor.

If there's only time for one beauty treat, what would you recommend?
My treat to myself every Christmas is a course of three professional facials. I plan them in at two-weekly intervals starting mid-November to help my skin remain calm and blemish-free no matter how many late nights and rum cocktails come my way! My favourite is our Advanced Prescriptive Facial (50 minutes, £68), which uses advanced technology to leave skin looking plump, smooth and radiant from your first treatment, so it's perfect when time or finances permit just the one treat.

What's your stress-free Christmas tip?
Starting early is my sanity saviour. At home I have the tree and decorations up, the presents wrapped, cards posted and Ocado delivery booked by 1 December. December is one of our busiest months at neroli, so planning and organisation leaves me able to calmly deal with the insane moments that present themselves as we get closer to Christmas.

PHOTOS BY TOM DUNKLEY

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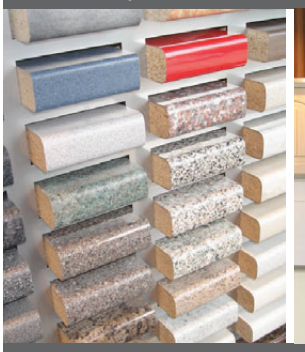

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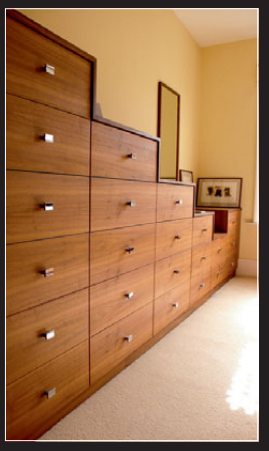

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JENNY ECLAIR

The Camberwell comedian celebrates the area's growing art scene

It's gone and done it again – the year has melted away. Twenty-sixteen beckons and I'm still writing 2013 on cheque stubs. Yes, I've still got a chequebook, and a Filofax for that matter, a word my hairdresser swore blind she'd never in her young life heard. 'Why don't you just ask Siri to remind you what to do?' she asked, confused that I should need such a thing as a paper diary. I tried to explain to her that I don't trust Siri, or as my 86 year-old mother calls him, 'the daft singing man with the microphone'.

Times change. When I first arrived in Camberwell, back in the dark ages, jogging hadn't been invented and the professional dog walker belonged to the future. Now, every single day a tangle of leads passes by my house, as four or five doggies are taken to play in the park, the big ones straining to get away from the little ones with the short legs at the back, trying to keep up. A bit like the joggers, really.

For the umpteenth time, I am back out on the road with a new solo show, *How to be a Middle Aged Woman (Without Going Insane)*, and every time I come home I hear of new plans for Camberwell, like the redevelopment of The Green for starters, complete with meadow, new play area and pedestrian access to the pretty new library. Plus, the South London Gallery has been gifted the old Kennedy Sausage factory opposite (once Peckham Road Fire Station) by an anonymous benefactor, and will be developing it into more exhibition and performance spaces.

In my dreams, Camberwell would have an arts centre and I would run it

In my dreams, Camberwell would have an arts centre and I would run it. I love arts centres. I perform in a lot of them all over the country. The best ones have drop-in yoga and drawing lessons, they run exhibitions and gigs side by side, they are flexible spaces designed to be used by all the community. The well-run ones are worth their weight in gold; the bad ones smell of failure. If I ran Camberwell Arts Centre, or CAC (an unfortunate acronym), there would be an ace café, free Wi-Fi, a crèche, stuff for old people, a drama club for kids and all the best stand-up, poetry, theatre and music.

There's more good news down the road in Vauxhall, where Damien Hirst has gifted south London with a sumptuous new gallery. He had converted what looks like an entire back street of ex-industrial buildings and theatrical warehouses into a vast, brilliant white backdrop for his own private collection. Free to the public, the gallery has kicked off with an exhibition of abstract artist John Hoyland's large-scale works dating from 1964 to 1982 (running until April 2016). Hats off to Hirst! You can be as snide as you like about his work (I'm a fan, as it happens), but this ex-Goldsmiths boy has done good and its great to have another arty destination on our side of the river.

So roll on Christmas and let's raise a New Year's toast to south London, because even this Grumpy Old Woman can see there are reasons to be cheerful in 2016!

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Living South resident

RECOMMENDS

5 ways to get that festive feeling locally

1 FOR FESTIVE FOODIES

The Southbank Centre Winter Market has just returned with a cluster of riverside chalets offering up mulled wine, gift ideas and plenty of grazing opportunities, like South East Cakery's mix-and-match brownie bar. The market runs daily from 11am-9pm (10pm at weekends) until 24 December. Visit the cosy Rekorderlig Cider Lodge too, where you can warm up by the fire pits with winter drinks and Scandinavian food.
See southbankcentre.co.uk

2 SANTA'S GROTTO

The park keeper's lodge in Dulwich Park is a Santa's Grotto with a difference, helping Whippersnappers raise funds to support those in need through music, sports and the arts. Before visiting Santa, kids can help the elves in the toy workshop, have their face painted, make tree decorations and more. Running 5-23 December. Tickets are £18.50 for kids (with photo), adults £7.50.
See whippersnappers winterwonderland.co.uk

3 ART FAIRS

The inaugural Havelock Walk Winter Weekend takes place on 28-29 November along Forest Hill's famous creative mews. The open studios event offers the chance to buy work direct from painters, sculptors, printmakers and more with live music, carol singers and food. The Camberwell Arts Christmas Open Studios takes place at the same time, with 125 creatives opening up their studios across the area.
See havelockwalk.com and camberwellarts.org.uk

4 STREET FESTIVALS

The Dulwiches get into the spirit of things again this year with the Love West Dulwich Christmas Fair on 28 November and the East Dulwich Christmas Cracker on 5 December. Both events have food and gift stalls, plus special offers from local traders. West Dulwich has a Santa's Grotto at Wigwam Toy Shop and storytelling at Dulwich Books, while Lordship Lane and North Cross Road come to life with music and roaming entertainers.
Find both events on Facebook

5 PURE PANTO

Greenwich Theatre celebrates 10 years of panto with a production of *Red Riding Hood* (running 20 November-10 January). Pantomime dame Andrew Pollard pens and stars in the production, playing Granny (adults £29, kids half price). Over at the Churchill Theatre in Bromley, Scott Maslen (aka Jack Branning in *EastEnders*) stars as Abanazar in *Aladdin* from 27 November until 3 January. Tickets, £10.50-£32.50.
See greenwichtheatre.org.uk and atgtickets.com

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{THE FINEST EVENTS IN LONDON THIS MONTH}

PHOTO BY PATCH DOLAN

OH, NO IT ISN'T!

A dark, Christmas anti-panto with much merriment

Head for Gary's Warehouse in Bermondsey this month to witness an elf try to talk his way out of a hostage taking situation in *The Night Before Christmas*, a dark, anti-panto comedy performed by West End actors. On Saturday nights, the show will be followed by comedy from Sooz Kempner (5 December), Tina Turner Tea Lady (12 December) and Marcel Lucont (19 December). The merriment is bolstered by street food, local brews and questionable secret Santa gifts. Running 5-19 December. Adults only. Tickets, £15-20.

Unit 3 Voyager Business Estate, Spa Road, Bermondsey SE16 4RP; differentbreedtheatre.com

Winter wonderland
The multi-international, award-winning *Slava's Snowshow* returns to Southbank Centre for a fifth consecutive Christmas season, playing the Royal Festival Hall from 16 December until 3 January. A combination of theatrical clowning and breathtaking visual effects, it is a show unlike anything you have ever seen before, where a bed becomes a boat, a web of cotton envelops the audience and one tiny piece of paper becomes a snowstorm.
Belvedere Road SE1 8XX; 0844 847 9910; slavasnowshow.co.uk

A LAUGH A MINUTE

Another great set of acts join compere Arthur Smith in the fourth House of Fun variety show at Blackheath Halls on Saturday 5 December. This uproarious night of variety with comedy, music and more includes stand-up with Mark Dolan, host of Channel 4's *Balls of Steel*, and a turn from comic country singer and activist Tina C (below). 8pm. Tickets £14, concs £12.
23 Lee Road, Blackheath SE3 9RQ; thehouseoffun.net

Online
Find more Christmas events at theresident.co.uk

STAR PERFORMER

Award-winning actress Sheridan Smith is back on stage at the Menier Chocolate Factory, starring in a major new revival of Funny Girl until 5 March, 2016. The actress plays the role of Fanny Brice, who rose from the Lower East Side of New York to become one of Broadway's biggest stars. menierchocolatefactory.com

HUGO GLENDINNING; JAMES BRYANT; ALASTAIR MUIR; GAO YUN

Paws for thought

The Bear, based on Raymond Briggs' enchanting picture book, heads for the Albany in Deptford in a special Christmas adaptation by Pins and Needles. Raymond Briggs has created characters that are icons for generations of children, including the beloved Snowman, and with dazzling puppetry, dreamy storytelling, music and laughs, *The Bear* is a heart-warming experience for the whole family (ages 3+). Running Monday 7 December until 3 January. Tickets £10, concs £8, family ticket, £32.
Douglas Way, Deptford SE8 4AG; 020 8692 4446; thealbany.org.uk

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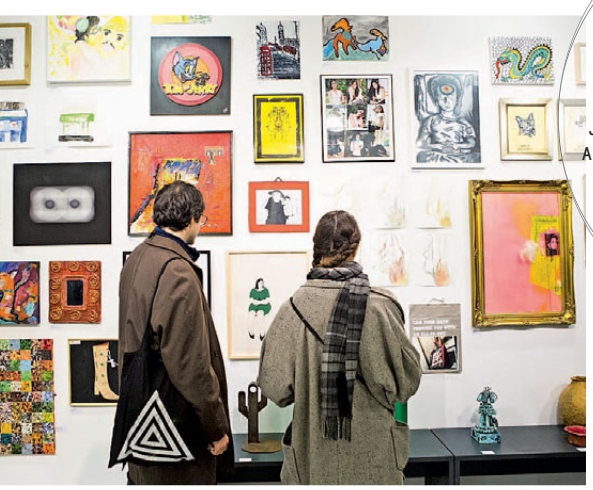
Tall tale

Based on the beloved 2003 film starring Will Ferrell, *Elf the Musical* is the hilarious tale of Buddy, a young orphan child who mistakenly crawls into Santa's bag of gifts and is transported back to the North Pole. Unaware that he is actually human, Buddy's enormous size and poor toy-making abilities cause him to face the truth. With Santa's permission, Buddy embarks on a journey to New York City to find his birth father, discover his true identity, and help New York remember the true meaning of Christmas.
On now until 2 January, 2016, at the Dominion Theatre, *Elf the Musical* features a cracking cast – including Ben Forster as Buddy, Kimberley Walsh as Jovie, and Joe McGann as Walter Hobbs – and songs by Tony Award nominees Matthew Sklar and Chad Beguelin.
Find out more at elfthemusical.co.uk and readers of this magazine can save 5% when booking with Shows in London via theresident.co.uk/theatre or by calling 020 3567 0620

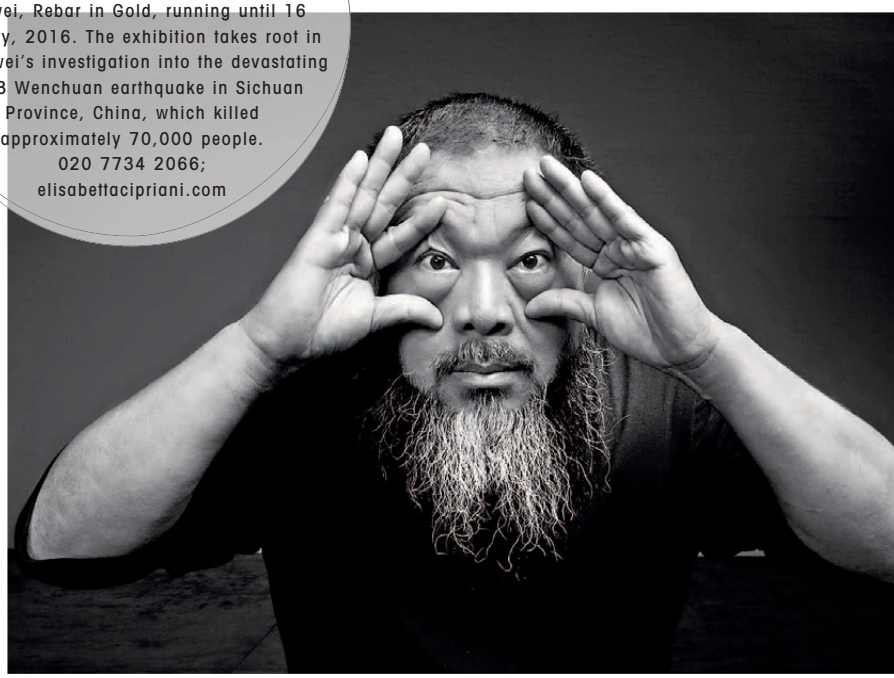


Peckham's #OPEN15

Peckham Platform's sixth annual open exhibition takes place from 28 November-20 December. The past five years have seen more than 600 artworks adorn the gallery walls in the run up to Christmas, and #OPEN15 is yet another great opportunity to discover Peckham's unbridled creativity. All works are for sale.
89 Peckham High Street SE15 5RS; 020 7358 9645; peckhamplatform.com

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

Elisabetta Cipriani is hosting a unique exhibition with renowned Chinese artist Ai Weiwei, Rebar in Gold, running until 16 January, 2016. The exhibition takes root in Ai Weiwei's investigation into the devastating 2008 Wenchuan earthquake in Sichuan Province, China, which killed approximately 70,000 people.
020 7734 2066;
elisabettacipriani.com



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Story KARA O'REILLY

All items, from a selection, houseoffraser.co.uk

INTO THE WOODS

Aim to pair nature-inspired decorations with traditional Christmas hues

Clockwise from top left: Wall-mounted reindeer head, **£49.95, rigbyandmac.com;** Mini acorn decoration, **£6, houseoffraser.co.uk;** Robin and Holly cracker, **£55 for six, thornbackandpeel.co.uk;** Forest Fox glass globe tree ornament, **£19.95, liberty.co.uk;** Squirrel decoration, £8.50, **oliverbonas.com;** Furry standing owl, **£14.99, joannawood.co.uk;** Robin decoration, **£3.50, npg.org.uk/shop;** Tanssi glass bauble by Klaus Haapaniemi, **£25, iittala.com**

DESIGN LINES

Many boutique and luxury brands bring out special or one-off pieces at this time of year

Silhouette wall art, £60, coxandcox.co.uk

Clockwise from top left: King and Queen bauble set, **£58, uk.jonathanadler.com;** Silver Christmas tree charm, **£15, dowerandhall.com;** Tate Modern London Landmark ceramic bauble, **£15.50, snowdenflood.com;** Twiggy snowman ceramic decoration, **£14.95, reikokaneko.co.uk;** Champs Elysee crystal tree tablet, **£89, lalique.com;** White ceramic decoration, **£2, re-foundobjects.com;** Matrioskas ornaments, **£140 per set, lladro.com;** Twinkle decoration by Meyer Lavigne, **£27 for three, uniqueandunity.co.uk;** Annual Christmas edition Angel decoration, **£16.90, villeroy-boch.co.uk**

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ALPINE RETREAT

Natural materials are the basis for this seasonal trend, adding accent pieces in bold reds

Clockwise from top left: Resin antler decoration, **£6.50, paperchase.co.uk;** Pine cone wreath, **£59, okadirect.com;** Large hanging Woody stars, **£6.95, rigbyandmac.com;** Ruby red bauble, **£15, theconranshop.co.uk;** Polaris tree topper, **£10, habitat.co.uk;** Antler candelabra, **£18, next.co.uk;** Wool baubles, **£22 for set of four, houseoffraser.co.uk;** Snowdrift whitewashed cone and berry garland, **£15, johnlewis.com;** Gingham stocking, **£25, thewhitecompany.com**

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JOIN THE GLITTERATI

Gold is a perennial Christmas classic, but update it by teaming with touches of black, white and taupe

Clockwise from top left: Glass droplet decorations, **£6 per set of 4, next.co.uk;** Apple and pear mini candles, **£29.95 per pair, miafleur.com;** Boutique striped glass bauble, **£3.50, johnlewis.com;** Mirrored glass wreath, **£33, re-foundobjects.com;** Gold glass swirl bauble, **from £35, fortnumandmason.com;** Large gold glitter table top tree, **£15, from The Contemporary Home, tch.net;** Monochrome and gold crackers, **£36 for six, rockettstgeorge.co.uk;** Snowflake rotary tea light holder, **£9.50, oliverbonas.com**

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Gift Guide

{LUXURIOUS PRESENTS TO BUY THIS CHRISTMAS}

SPARKLING INSPIRATION

Find the perfect gifts for the ones you love in our nine-page guide

Love it or loathe it, Christmas shopping is as inescapable as mince pies and Santa songs during the festive build-up – and best avoided on Christmas Eve if you value your sanity. So, let us ease the pressure with our comprehensive list of ideas. We have carefully selected a variety of beautiful gifts for gadget fanatics, style connoisseurs, foodies, children and lovers of homeware... just take your pick!

Above: Patek Philippe Men's Annual Calender watch in rose gold, POA at boodles.com

Home Lovers

Treat them to an interiors gift they will love and cherish

Savannah Story zebra bust, £58, anthropologie.com

Carousel mirror, £1,982, christopherguy.com

Cocolux Exotic Amber & Spice candle, £55, roullierwhite.com

Marble teapot, £345, astierdevillatte.com

Ceramic wall parrot £18.95, rigbyandmac.com

Boabab scented black pearls candle, £89, amara.com

Four-slice toaster by Charlene Mullen, £99.99, dualit.com

Alfredo horn spoons, from £45 for 4, heals.com

R7 all-in-one music system in walnut, £1,999, dosouthshop.com

Small metallic leather drum ottoman, £280, alma1938.com

STORY: KARA O'REILLY

Fabric-wrapped chandelier, from £700, squintlimited.com

Wild pig cushion, £32.50, lushlampshades.co.uk

Centre Point limited-edition Original 1227 desk light by Eley Kishimoto, from £200, anglepoise.com

Jin Eui Kim ceramics, £175-£225, Dulwich Picture Gallery Shop, 020 8693 5254

Brew copper-finish coffee set, from £75 for the coffee caddy, tomdixon.net

Lucite chess set, £795, uk.jonathanadler.com

Through the Looking Glass Plate by Eleanor Stewart, £40, from The British Library, shop.bl.uk

Podium glass and marble vase, from £345, leebroom.com

Enamel bowl, £18, oliverbonas.com

William Morris Martello footstool, £1,295, houseofhackney.com

Multifloral velvet throw, £150, whitestuff.com

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Burberry Gold Glow Fragranced Luminising Powder, £45, burberry.com

Red silk-lined leather gloves, £65, dents.co.uk

Fornasetti Profumi Astronomici Scented Candle, £125, selfridges.com

Black lace dress, £275, jcrew.com/uk

Melissa Drama Flock ankle boots, £85, davinashoes.co.uk

Cushion-cut diamond ring in Platinum, POA, tiffany.co.uk

Bespoke deco ring (stones and finish to order), from £300, johnnyrocketltd.com

Valentino Rockstud shoulder bag £1,310, harveynichols.com

Rosier by Nancy Meiland, £105, roullierwhite.com

Escher Metamorphosis silk scarf, £75, dulwichpicturegallery.org.uk

Simon Carter Army Khaki Holkham bag, £200, simoncarter.net

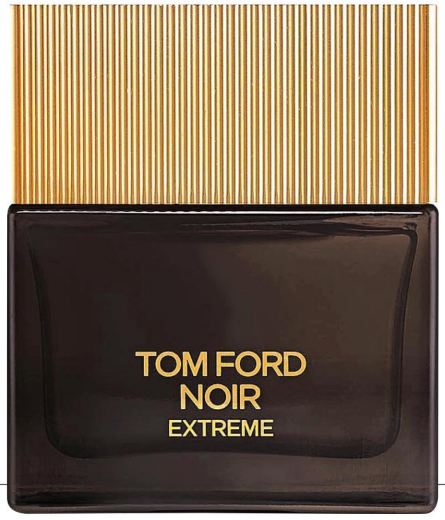
Rebel Lipstick, £15.50 maccosmetics.co.uk

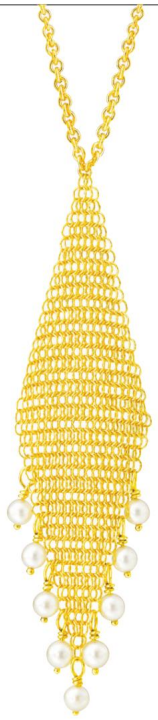
Christy's wool Fedora Hat, £75, reiss.com

18kt yellow and white gold Quatre Radiant bangle with diamonds, £16,200, boucheron.com

Wool peacoat, £325 jcrew.com/uk

Tom Ford Noir Extreme Eau de Parfum, £70, tomford.com





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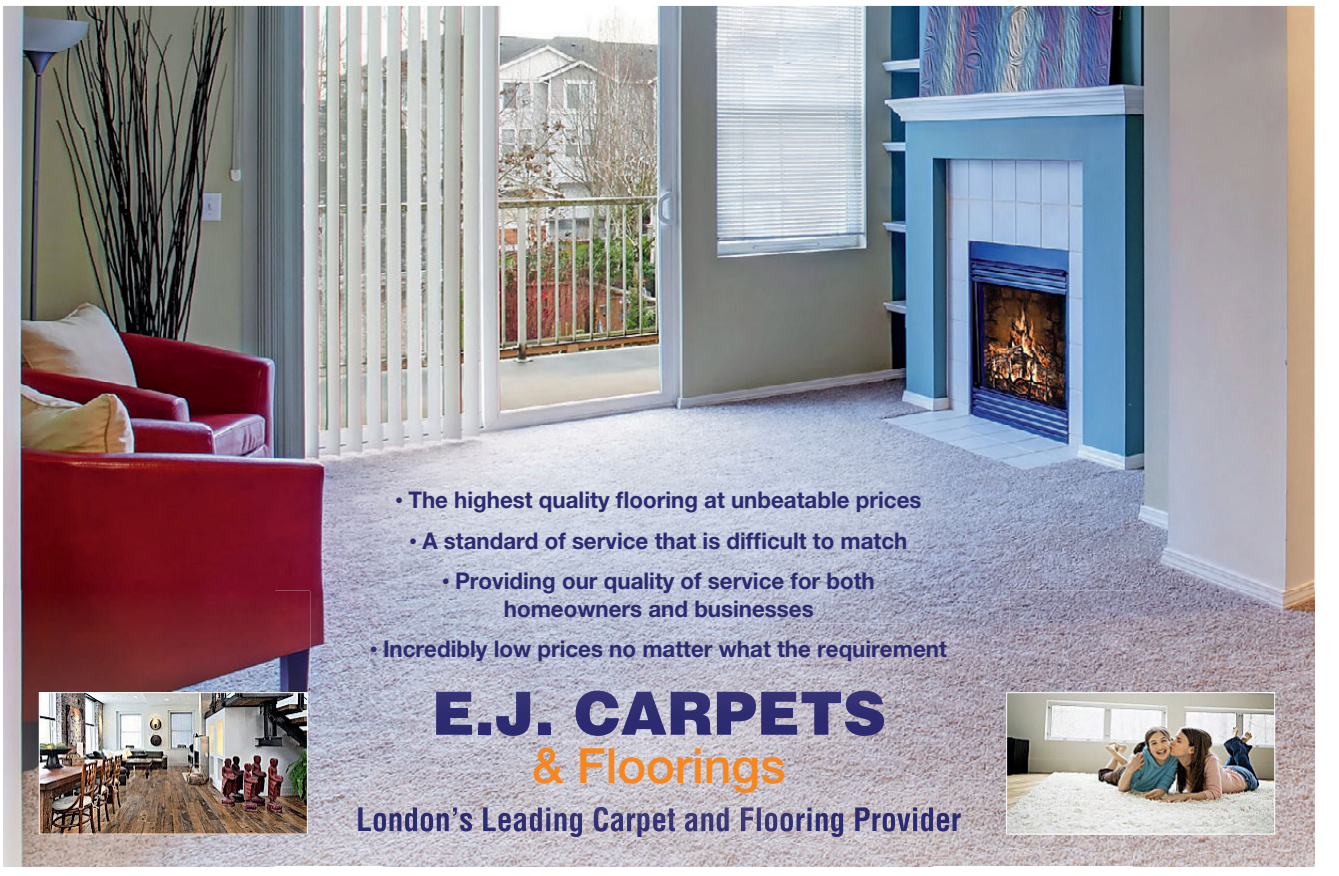

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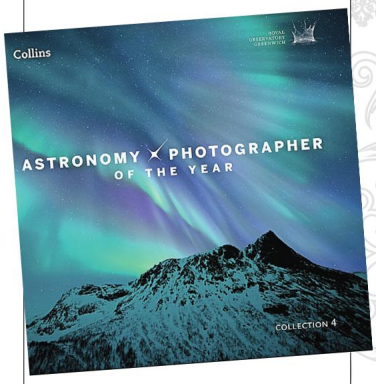

Ai Weiwei push up wood figure, £6, Royal Academy Gift Shop; shop.royalacademy.org.uk

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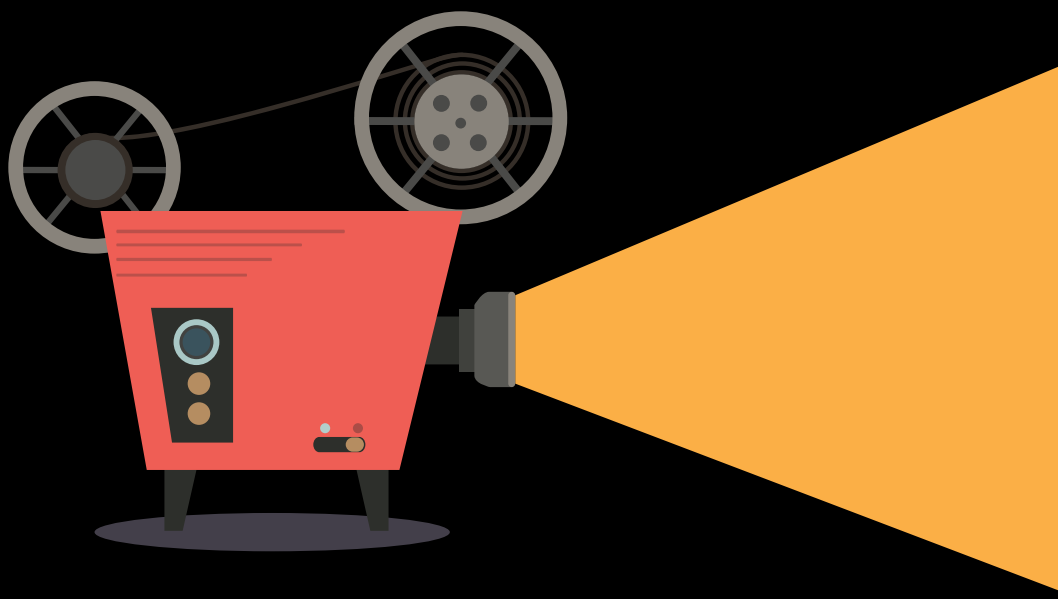

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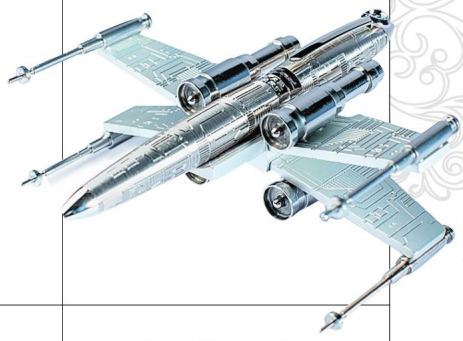

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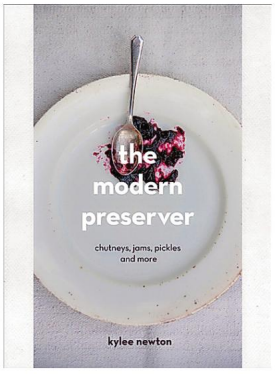

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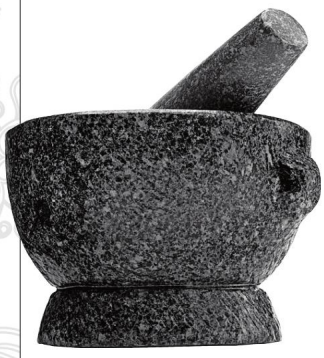

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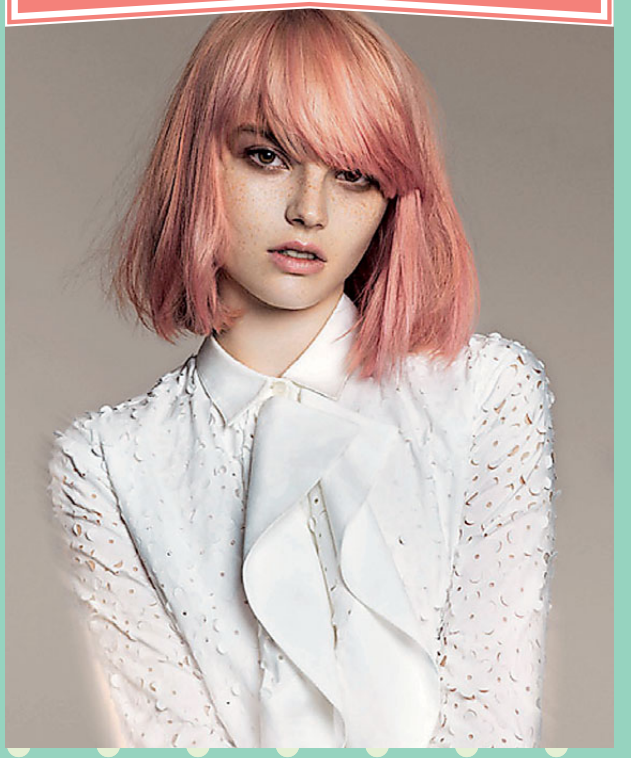

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Opening 23rd November

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Greenwich SE10 9FZ

www.thecuriouscomb.co.uk

We're in Greenwich Square!
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*valid until 10/12/15, not valid with any other offer, valid on presentation of this advert

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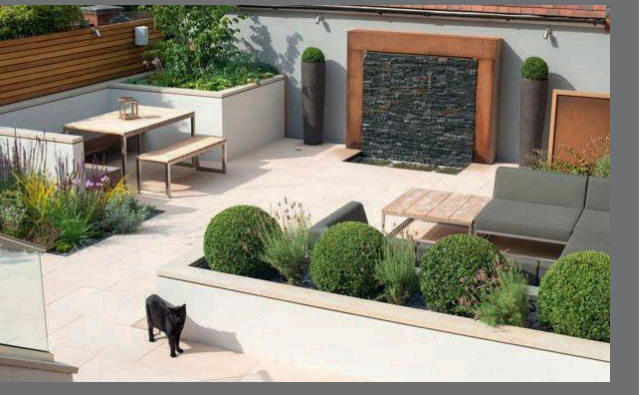
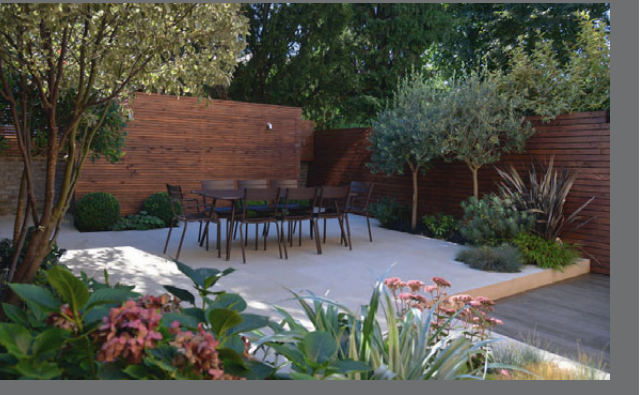


THE LONDON LANDSCAPING COMPANY



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T | 020 8299 6466
E | info@london-landscape.com
W | www.london-landscape.com

Toy Lovers

You'll give Santa a good name with these cool buys for kids

NASA astronaut outfit, £50, shop.rmg.co.uk

Circus bookends, £18.99, Wigwam,109 Rosendale Road, West Dulwich SE21 8EZ; 020 8676 4815

Pewter Sequinned Dress, £98.43, smallable.com

Juju Ladybug lunch box, £30. gigibrooks.com

Steiff Paddington Bear, £119, steiff.com

Tin fly's eyes lens, £3.50 each, Dulwich Picture Gallery Shop, 020 8693 5254

London bus wooden stacker, £14, jojomamanbebe.co.uk

Robot Money Box, £6. Paperchase, paperchase.co.uk

Hedgehog Grand Racer Car, £185, available from hedgehogshop.co.uk

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The team at Grant Saw Solicitors celebrate their award

High fliers

Grant Saw Solicitors celebrates being highly commended at the Law Firm Services awards

Grant Saw Solicitors LLP is proud to announce that we have been awarded second place and highly commended by Law Firm Services (LFS) as Small Conveyancing Firm of the Year. We were judged on our compliance, legal expertise and commitment to providing a quality legal service to clients.

We provide comprehensive reports to clients and countless opportunities to discuss the legal paperwork at an early stage. All our lawyers are experienced and each client is given a named lawyer to act on their behalf throughout their transaction. We identify and tackle issues as soon as they arise rather than at the last minute, avoiding frustration. We spend approximately six hours on a freehold matter and ten hours on a leasehold matter.

There are very few firms who provide such a quality conveyancing and property service. We draft all types of legal documents and find we are the ones preparing documents to remedy legal issues because other firms do not have the expertise. We offer clients purchasing a residential property a reimbursement scheme so that they may recover legal, survey, mortgage and search fees (up to £2,100) if their transaction does not proceed through no fault of their own (terms and conditions apply).

We are Lexcel accredited, which is the Law Society's practice management standard, awarded only to solicitors who meet the highest management and client care standards. We are members of LawNet, a collaboration between some of the country's leading law firms, which helps us to exchange ideas and ensure best practice from which our clients benefit. We are accredited with the Law Society's Conveyancing Quality Scheme and are on the panel of most mortgage lenders.

We thank all of you who are our clients and look forward to working with you in the future, and to those of you who are not yet our clients please consider instructing us next time you need a specialist property lawyer.

Grant Saw Solicitors has offices at Norman House, 110-114 Norman Road, Greenwich SE10 9EH and 9 Hare & Billet Road, Blackheath SE3 0RB. For further information call 020 8858 6971 or see grantsaw.co.uk

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BLUE SKY LIVING provide a fully integrated service: from design (3D concept generation, architectural drawings, construction drawings) of your glass extension and assistance with obtaining the necessary building permits, through the groundwork and build, to the glass installation and kitchen fit-out (if desired).

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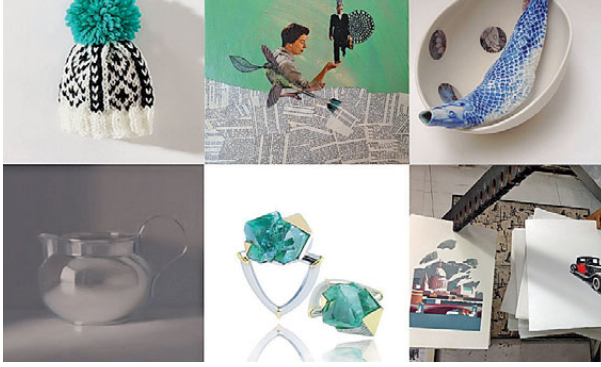
BLUE SKY LIVING

THE A TO Z OF CHRISTMAS

Everything you need for a Merry Christmas and a healthy, happy New Year



A is for Art

On the final weekend of November, artists of Camberwell – from the internationally renowned to the up and coming – will throw open their doors to art lovers and gift seekers during Camberwell Arts Winter Open Studios. With more than 125 artists across 11 venues taking part, there has never been a better reason to shop local this Christmas for something truly unique. Camberwell Arts Winter Open Studios run from 27-29 November.

For further details see camberwellarts.org.uk or follow @CamberwellArts on Twitter and Instagram

B is for Beverley Morris & Co

Beverley Morris & Co provides a tailor-made professional service by experienced lawyers. The firm offers practical advice and help on all aspects of conveyancing, family law, employment, litigation, wills, probate and lasting powers of attorney. A friendly welcome is guaranteed at their easily accessible ground-floor office in Blackheath, as well as their first-floor Lewisham office, where their lawyers are prepared to go that one step further.

35 Montpelier Vale SE3 0TJ; 020 8852 4433; beverleymorris.co.uk

C is for Curious Comb

The Curious Comb, established in 2009 in Westcombe Park, has recently moved to a new home in Greenwich Square. Rated 5/5 in customer reviews and voted finalist in the UK Salon of the Year Awards 2015, the team specialises in the latest hair colouring and cutting technologies. Proud stockists of Davines, Mr Natty and Olapex.

5-7 Hazel Lane, Greenwich SE10 9FZ; 020 8853 8282; curiouscomb.co.uk

D is for Driscoll's Decor

Driscoll's Decor is an established supplier of high-quality authentic period plaster mouldings, including coving and ceiling roses. The team's extensive knowledge and experience ensures a high level of customer satisfaction by providing the perfect solution to your design requirements. In-house master fitters ensure a professional finish to any new or existing installations regardless of size, shape or style. Visit the website (below) to view the extensive range.

422 Lee High Road SE12 8RW; 020 8852 5972; greenwichcornice.co.uk

E is for Eizun

From Ayurvedic Facials that go beyond skin deep to the iconic Signature Back Massage, you are guaranteed an amazing experience at Eizun in Greenwich. Call in for a well needed Christmas treat or to pick up Gift Vouchers for loved ones. The team prides itself in delivering lovely and exceptional wellbeing treatments including Reiki Healing, Detox Massage, Reflexology and Pregnancy Treatments. Don't forget to mention *The Guide Resident* to receive a 30% discount throughout the festive period.

89 Corbidge Court, Glaisher Street SE8 3ET; eizun.com; 07738 581 683

F is for framing

Whether you're looking to frame a picture, print or photograph, Framing on the Heath has an unlimited array of designs and styles, plus quality in-house craftsmanship to ensure you get the frame you want. The team can deal with any size of frame and also retails a number of special-edition prints and posters.
14 Royal Parade, Blackheath SE3 0TL; 020 8852 8220; framingontheheath.co.uk

G is for Greenwich Market

Greenwich Market is a magical place to shop with twinkling Christmas lights and a festive atmosphere. Browse up to 120 stalls with hand-crafted gift ideas from handmade jewellery, fashion, art and more by local designer-makers. Open seven days a week from 1-24 December. Visit the special St Alfege Market too!
greenwichmarketlondon.com

H is for home

Mortgage Direct is one of the UK's leading mortgage brokers. Whatever type of mortgage you require and whatever your circumstances, the team will find you the right and most competitive mortgage. Mortgage Direct is fully independent and sources mortgages and related products from the whole market.
mortgage-direct.com; 020 8297 9511; enquiry@mortgage-direct.com

I is for Ian Dunn

Ian Dunn Woodwork and Design, based on Goose Green Trading Estate in East Dulwich, has been designing and fitting bespoke home interiors for more than 30 years. The team regularly undertakes projects covering a wide range of fitted and freestanding furniture including kitchens, libraries, studies and dressing rooms. Get in touch for an invite to their upcoming open day.
See iandunn.com, call 020 8613 1781 or email info@iandunn.com

J is for Jane Bottomley

Let the team at Jane Bottomley Interiors help you with anything from paint colours and sourcing fabrics to reupholstering a sofa in an existing scheme. The company also offers a full interior design service with colour and textile sample boards, an illustrated furniture and fixtures list, bespoke furniture concept designs, furniture layout, an outline of lighting fixtures, plus a decorating schedule.
janebottomleyinteriors.co.uk; 020 8355 3388; info@janebottomleyinteriors.co.uk

K is for kitchens

For a local bespoke kitchen and furniture manufacturer who will let you keep control over the design and build of your kitchen or built-in furniture, try The Dovetail Joint in Forest Hill. They have manufactured beautiful handmade kitchens since 1990, so for stylish, practical, hardwearing and competitively priced kitchen furniture, call The Dovetail Joint.
See thedovetailjoint.co.uk or call 020 8291 5578

L is for landscaping

The London Landscaping Company, based in East Dulwich, has an experienced, dedicated team who will design, build and finish your garden. The whole process is completed in-house and managed from start to finish, so that nothing is lost in translation. The company combines practised build techniques and attention to structural detail with leading contemporary design so that you can have the modern, functional garden that you've always dreamed of.
london-landscape.com; info@london-landscape.com; 020 8299 6466

M is for Marie Kalsi

Marie Kalsi Interior Design is a design consultancy in East Dulwich that provides visually stunning interiors and comprehensive design services for residential clients. Whether your property requires structural changes, a new kitchen or bathroom, or a simple re-decoration, the team can take away the pressure of making those hard decisions. Whatever your budget, they will improve your living space. Call for a free consultation.
mariekalsi.co.uk; 020 7177 2969

N is for Natasha Green

Natasha Green and her team are local specialists in personal training, home training and bootcamps. They lead regular bootcamps on Blackheath for people of all levels of fitness, as well as the opportunity to book a taster class or top up existing bookings. Whether it's a general workout or something more focused, they can help – visit the website to register for a free consultation and begin your journey to a healthier you.
See natashagreenpersonaltraining.com or call 07884 221 343

O is for opticians

Roger Pope Opticians, which was founded in New Cavendish Street in 1987 and opened a second practice in Dulwich Village in 1996, stocks frames that are a little different, from cool retro Cat Eyes to the brightest colours and funkiest shapes. Step into the Dulwich store to browse the hundreds of frames that are completely exclusive or stocked by only a handful of select practices in the UK. After all, the eyes have it!
29 Dulwich Village SE21 7BN; 020 8299 0230; dulwich@rogerpope.co.uk; rogerpopedulwich.co.uk

P is for Pilates

One One One Pilates is much more than just a Pilates studio, with a truly holistic approach to body and mind. As well as fully qualified Pilates instructors, they also have a team of experienced and dedicated professional practitioners and therapists who offer a large range of treatments including osteopathy, physiotherapy, massage, acupuncture and dietetics.
111 Lee Road, Blackheath SE3 9DZ; 020 8318 5221; 111pilates.com

Q for quit smoking

Quit smoking, drinking to excess or eating junk food. Yes, you can do all of this and more besides. Book an appointment with Diana Powley at Dune Hypnotherapy in January and get £10 off your first session. Diana will use a combination of NLP and Hypnotherapy to get you back in control. And you get to take home a recording on a CD or USB.
dunehypnotherapy.co.uk; 0800 093 2024

R for Roullier White

Roullier White is world renowned for having the largest selection of rare fragrances in the UK – not bad for a little shop on Lordship Lane! As more and more people are seeking out unique and characterful scents, Roullier White is the destination for smart Christmas shopping. With friendly and expert advisors on hand, and a glass of fizz in your hand, it's the place to be!
125 Lordship Lane, East Dulwich SE22 8HU; 020 8693 5150; roullierwhite.com

S is for solid silver

Established in Greenwich in 2013, the Too Marvellous online boutique hosts a collection of the finest gifts for the discerning. Specialists in the procurement of beautiful, luxury products, the team has more than 30 years of retailing experience in some of the world's finest stores, and would like to share that experience with you. These Star Wars pewter cufflinks by Royal Selangor (above) are £45.
Buy online at toomarvellous.co.uk

T for Titman Design

The heart of the winter home is often the kitchen, where family and guests can gather to eat, chat and socialise. When you build an extension to facilitate more of these intimate meetings, it is worth designing your addition to allow for both summer and winter functions by creating large glazed openings, which allow you better views to the garden, more sunlight and outside parties.

marktitman.com; 0777 1907 011
mstitman@globalnet.co.uk

U for Urban Orient

Delicious dim sum and steaming pho noodles make for the perfect winter warmers, and where better to enjoy them than the cool, retro 1920s surrounds of the Urban Orient in Crystal Palace? The food is a mix of traditional and contemporary Vietnamese, noodle soup, crispy wontons and the addition of that Hong Kong favourite, Dim Sum.

74 Westow Street, Crystal Palace
SE19 3AF;
020 8616 4511

V for Vale Practice

Give the gift of good health this Christmas with a gift voucher from The Vale Practice. The complete natural healthcare specialists offer everything from sports massage to reflexology, nutritional therapy, acupuncture, counselling and more. With every £50 voucher purchased, get a free £10 voucher to help you unwind in January.

64 Grove Vale, East Dulwich SE22 8DT;
020 8299 9798; thevalepractice.co.uk

W is for Blackheath Wreaths

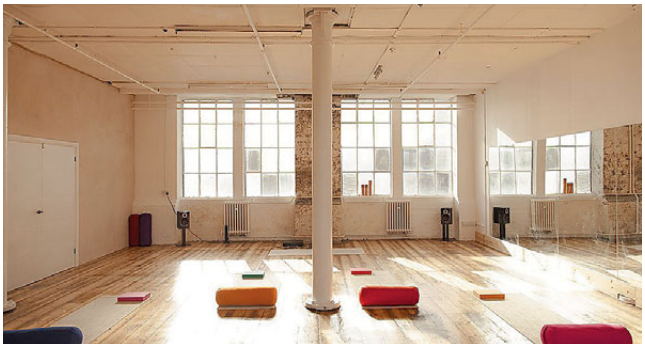
Blackheath Wreaths is a family-run company that creates bespoke, luxury festive foliage. Prices range from £20 for a small, dried fruit wreath to £120 for the largest wreath. Stair garlands, hand-tied bouquets, Christmas trees and decorations can also be supplied. The team can incorporate your choice of ribbon, fruit, flowers and foliage. Delivered London-wide.

blackheathwreaths.co.uk; 07712 676 278

X is for xylophone

Encourage your little musician's creativity this Christmas with this colourful xylophone from Jojo Maman Bebe (£16). Featuring eight, accurate electronically tuned note bars, sounds and colours to stimulate the senses, it also has rounded edges and a specially shaped mallet that makes the xylophone safe and easy for little ones to use. Suitable from age 12 months.

jojomamanbebe.co.uk



Y is for yoga

Victor's Lab at the Bussey Building in Peckham hosts a variety of creative yoga classes to keep you fit, flexible and inspired. From Wayakan yoga that combines Hatha yoga with some gymnastic-based techniques, to Postnatal Yoga for Mum & Baby, Ashtanga Vinyasa Flow Yoga and even Beats & Backbends – yoga for teens – there's a class for everybody. Drop-in places available.

Bussey Building, 133 Rye Lane, Peckham SE15 4ST; 0845 604 2045;
victorslab.co.uk

Z is for zumba

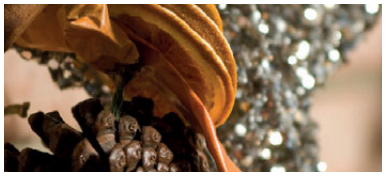
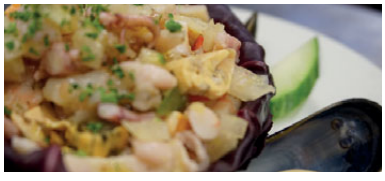
Established in 2006, Push Studios in East Dulwich has been blazing a trail in innovative classes from Zumba to Mums Fitness, 80s Retro Workout, Ballet Sculpt, Pilates, Yoga and workshops that inspire and encourage you to have fun while exercising. There's even a Schwumba class, combining Zumba and showgirl moves to tunes from Lady gaga to Beyonce and Hairyspray!

17-21 Blackwater Street,
East Dulwich SE22 8SD;
020 8693 9111;
pushstudios.co.uk

CHAPTERS

Chapters Gift Vouchers

An Inspirational Christmas Gift.

When you are looking for an inspirational Christmas Gift that will be enjoyed and remembered look no further than Chapters. Chapters Gift Vouchers can easily solve your gift-giving dilemmas, making the ideal present this Christmas for those friends and family you know will enjoy fine food, fine wine and the scrumptious dining experience that is Chapters.

You can either purchase gift vouchers at the restaurant or online.
In the restaurant the vouchers can be bought in various denominations. With an online voucher you can create your own personalised message for the recipient and you will instantly receive an email with your voucher, which can be printed off and redeemed at Chapters or our sister restaurant, Chapters One in Bromley.

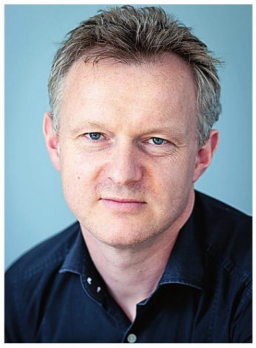
Simply order online at: www.chaptersblackheath.com

"With a super location overlooking the heath, Chapters (relaxed sibling of big-hitting big-brother restaurant Chapter One) is an all-round hot ticket. An accomplished, neighbourhood restaurant act."

AA Restaurant Guide 2015

TWO AA ROSETTES

43/45 Montpelier Vale, Blackheath Village, SE3 0TJ
T: 020 8333 2666 www.chaptersblackheath.com



GUY AWFORD

Hosting family on Boxing Day? Try this simple roast wild sea bass dish

Boxing Day is a tricky day to host a lunch. Hampered by the previous day's indulgencies you'll want to avoid another challenging morning in the kitchen. I suggest roasting a wild sea bass with a healthy selection of winter vegetables; it's dead simple to prepare, easy to cook, and it looks wonderful served whole at the table for everyone to share.

The first step is to choose the right size fish. To be generous you'll want to serve at least 200g of fish per person, so bearing in mind you'll lose about half the weight to the head and bones, you'll need to allow for approximately 400g per person. Ask your fishmonger to clean and scale the fish as it's a particularly messy job. If you do scale the bass yourself beware of the fins – they are very sharp!

Half an hour before cooking give the bass a good wash in cold water, then dry thoroughly and leave out of the fridge to come to room temperature. Now cut three deep slashes in each side of the bass to allow the heat to penetrate quickly and evenly. It's very important that the fish is as dry as possible before you put it into the oven, as you need a high dry heat to roast effectively, so pat dry once again with kitchen paper before seasoning and placing the aromatics in the cavity.

Finally, when roasting anything on the bone it's essential to rest it before serving to allow the residual heat to complete the cooking process.

Guy is chef-patron of handmadefood.com, insiderestaurant.co.uk & theguildfordarms.co.uk

TOP TIP

Ask your fishmonger to clean and scale the fish as it's a messy job. And when roasting anything on the bone, rest it before serving to allow the residual heat to complete the cooking.

ROAST WILD SEA BASS WITH WINTER VEGETABLES & AIOLI

- **Serves: 6**
- **Preparation time: 30 minutes**
- **Cooking time: 40 minutes**

1 wild sea bass, approx 2.4kg (ask your fishmonger to clean and scale it)
12 Jerusalem artichokes, peeled and cut in half lengthwise
3 heads of fennel, trimmed and quartered, fronds reserved
4 shallots, sliced
6 carrots, peeled and roughly chopped
2 lemons
1 head of garlic, cloves separated (but not peeled)
Winter greens
3 bay leaves
200g mayonnaise
Pinch saffron and smoked paprika

1 Pre-heat the oven to 190°C.
2 Toss the artichokes, shallots, garlic cloves, fennel and carrots in a light olive oil. Season and scatter into a large oven dish. Roast for 10 mins.
3 Dry the bass thoroughly, brush with a light olive oil and season generously inside and out. Push a chopped shallot, three bay leaves and a few slices of lemon into the cavity.
4 Place the bass on top of the vegetables and roast for 20 minutes.
5 Remove from the oven and rest for 5 minutes to allow the residual heat to complete the cooking process.
6 In the meantime, remove the roast garlic and squeeze it into the mayo. Stir in saffron and smoked paprika to taste.
7 Scatter the fennel fronds over the bass. Place the oven dish, mayo and a bowl of winter greens on the table for your guests to share.

Introducing Guy Awford's new restaurant:

UPSTAIRS AT THE GUILDFORD ARMS

Beautiful natural food led by the provenance of our ingredients

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WITH A LATIN TWIST

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CHRISTMAS MENU

— COCKTAILS —

A glass of Key Royal or
a non-alocholic cocktail

— STARTERS —

Game terrine
Homemade terrine with cranberry and pistachio served with rustic bread

Peruvian Ceviche
A South American speciality of marinated fish with lime juice, onion, chilli and coriander

Cocktail de cangrejo de río
Crayfish cocktail with horseradish cream and avocado

Timbale d'aubergines
Warm aubergines timbales with goat's cheese served on a bed of baby spinach leaves

— MEAT DISHES —

Pavo navideño
Norfolk turkey served with roasted root vegetable, sage, onion stuffing, cranberry sauce and with all the trimmings

Lubina con hinojo
Fillet of seabass in a bed of fennel and black olives

Cordero
Rump of lamb in a bed of Mediterranean vegetables and dauphinoise potatoes

Risotto d'inverno
Butternut squash, pea and sweetcorn risotto

— DESSERTS —

Christmas pudding *With brandy sauce*

Pancakes
Pancakes in amaretto and dulce de leche sauce

Coffee or Tea

£25 PER PERSON

Discover the world of Meantime at their brewery and Tasting Rooms in Greenwich

HOP TO IT

Move over wine, craft beer is enjoying its time in the limelight as the discerning drink of Londoners. Here's how to become a hops aficionado...

Words VICTORIA PURCELL

Shakespeare didn't like beer, he was more of an ale man. That's because, back in the day, ale wasn't hopped, and beer was, and Will probably found it a bit 'crisp'. Discover dinner-party trivia like this and more, as well as why beer is embedded in our culture as far back as ancient civilisations, with The Knowledge masterclass at Meantime Brewery in Greenwich.

No, this isn't a course for aspiring black cab drivers, it's part of Meantime's series of masterclasses aimed at anyone with an interest in brewing. Sure, you've supped all the craft beers that London can throw at you, but how much do you really know about the grains, the yeast and the hops that have combined to create that gorgeous amber glow in your glass? How on earth do you ferment barley? You have enough vocabulary to get through a wine tasting, but what sort of musings should you be making about the IPA you're drinking?

The masterclasses offer a detailed insight into the theory of brewing the Meantime way

Devised by Meantime Founder and Master Brewer Alastair Hook alongside Beer Sommelier of the Year Rod Jones, The Knowledge is a comprehensive foundation in the professional production of modern craft beer.

'Meantime has been at the forefront of the modern craft beer movement in the UK since we commenced brewing in early 2000,' says Alastair.

'Now, 15 years on,' he continues, 'we are one of the oldest and biggest craft brewers in the country and have spent a huge amount of time perfecting our knowledge of how to brew great beer. The masterclasses offer an informative, accessible and fun way for beer aficionados to expand their horizons, so that their experience and appreciation of the world's greatest drink is even more pleasurable.'

The classes range from beginner through to advanced, with additional evening classes covering an array of topics including How to Taste Beer, London's Beer History, How Beer is Made, plus the fun, informal Beer and Cheese Matching course.

Rod, who leads The Knowledge, is a man who sure knows his beer. In a one-day masterclass (£90), he'll put you through your paces on the various types of barley used to make Meantime's brews, how to malt the grain, the mashing process, the science of taste and beer evaluation. You'll also get to take a tour of the brewery, and test out your tasting abilities with Meantime's range of brews that include London Lager, London Pale Ale, Yakima Red, Pilsner, IPA, Chocolate Porter, Wheat beer and more, as well as gaining an in-depth understanding of the world's greatest beer styles.

Afterwards, hang out at The Tasting Rooms, the brewery's very own bar, which has all the Meantime beers on draught and friendly bar staff who can chat for hours about the golden stuff. And don't forget to exit through the gift shop, where you can pick up all sorts of Meantime swag from t-shirts to mugs and even beer soap.

See meantimebrewing.com/the-knowledge

Find the best places to eat & drink in London with The Menu

Introducing the top food and drink spots in the county, all conveniently packaged up in one handy guide.

Search by type of restaurant, cuisine or proximity to where you are – we've made it easy for you to find the perfect place to eat.

Search for 'Resident Menu' in the app store or visit the gourmet section of theresident.co.uk

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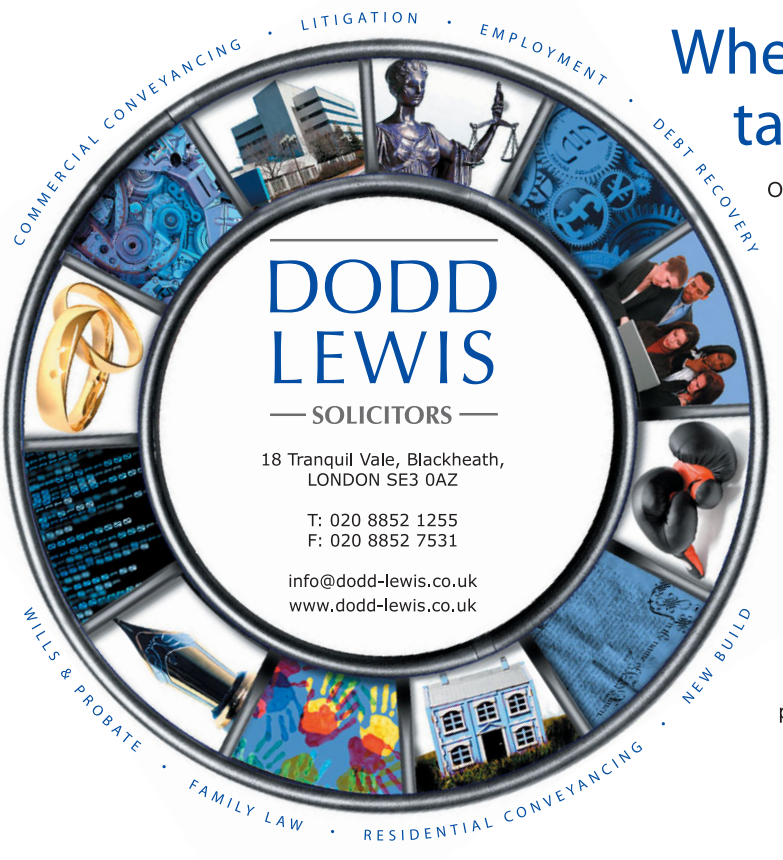

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Street Feast returns with an indoor food market in Canada Water

WINTER FEAST

If you're missing Lewisham Model Market, rejoice in the opening of Hawker House, Street Feast's new indoor market. Taking over a huge warehouse in Canada Water, Hawker House is open until 12 December, reopening after Christmas on 29 January. The two-level night market hosts 13 street food traders – debuting Meat Hook, an Argentine-style, three-meter-long, whole-animal grill – six bars and a DJ.
streetfeastlondon.com

FOOD NOTEBOOK

Delicious bites for south east Londoners

Slow food celebration

Family-run corner shop-cum deli Beamish & McGlue celebrated its 10th anniversary in October by inviting people to check out its newly refurbished premises while enjoying a hog roast and live music. The shop, which stocks everything from tea and coffee to organic fruit and veg, free-range meat and eco-friendly cleaning products – all at competitive prices – recently received a Slow Food UK Supporter Award for supporting the Slow Food cause.
461 Norwood Road, West Norwood SE27 9DQ; 020 8761 8099; beamishandmcglue.com

DINNER IS SERVED

Hand Made Food in Blackheath is set to open up for evening service from mid-November. The much-loved local traiteur will extend its homely charms by offering a petite menu of seasonal dishes, all prepared from scratch by Head Chef Steve Fowler, alongside specially selected natural wines. See handmadefood.com

All-day dining

Anderson & Co, which opened on Bellenden Road in 2010 as a cafe, has reinvented itself as an all-day restaurant serving breakfast through to dinner. The new evening menu, created by chefs Arendt Chiverton and Teemu Tovainen, previously of Quaglino's and The Soho Hotel, changes every two weeks to reflect the best of the seasons. The premises have also been refurbished.
139 Bellenden Road, Peckham SE15 4DH; 020 7469 7078

FESTIVE TREATS

The South East Cakery has taken its classic brownie base, mixed it through with mincemeat and topped it off with a homemade pastry crumble to create the delicious Mince Pie Brownie. From £35 for 28 bites. Buy online at southeastcakery.com

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CHAMPAGNE & FROMAGE

Words VICTORIA PURCELL

There's no better time for indulgence than Christmas, but at Champagne & Fromage, it's the season of indulgence all year round. Located on the corner of Greenwich Market, where Beachcomber used to be, it's a great addition to the area's food scene alongside Jamie's Italian, Sticks 'n' Sushi and Black Vanilla's fantastic organic sorbet. Rumour has it that Bill's Restaurant will soon be opening on the corner of Nelson Road and Greenwich High Road, too.

It's an area undergoing great change, as the market itself edges nearer to the completion of its huge refurbishment project, with a new glass roof, modern brick walkways and a pavilion for a food market, all set to launch in March. (In the meantime, you can still browse the amazing array of designer-makers, you just have to step around the odd barrier.) And now you can break up your shopping with something a little more intoxicating than coffee and cake – bubbles and Brie. Champagne & Fromage is dinky inside, but that just adds to the charming, rustic-chic decor. The cheeseboards are out of this world, rustled up from a 50-strong selection of soft and hard cheeses. On the day I visited, that was a cracking Comte with those teeny nuggets of crunchy texture, the creamiest Brie I've ever encountered, and a deliciously potent Roquefort. Three types of salami and cured ham grace your board, too, and it's your job to discover which of these melt-in-the-mouth cured meats and lovely cheeses work best with which of the tapenades (fig, goji berry plus a basilic and garlic cream) to add that little je ne sais quoi. It's a tricky task as the flavours are powerful, so I gave up, enjoying each luscious one on its own between sips of an elegant flute of the champagne of the week (their selection of 25 award-winning grower champagnes are sourced from independent, artisan producers).

The menu also features a selection of tartines, charcuteries, baked Camembert, confit de canard and even a new Sunday brunch, all of which I intend to return – again and again – to try. This great little place means you have even fewer reasons to schlep into central London. Why go to Covent Garden when Covent Garden has come to Greenwich?

34 Church Street, Greenwich SE10 9BL; champagneplusfromage.co.uk

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WHAT TO EAT...
A cheeseboard is great for grazing, but that baked camembert...

WHAT TO KNOW...
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MAKE A SPLASH

Keep warm and burn serious calories this winter by taking up swimming. According to swimming.org, just 10 minutes of swimming the butterfly stroke will burn 135kcal, compared to running for 10 minutes at 6mph, which burns around 100kcal. For a simpler stroke, stick with a fast front crawl (135kcal) or breaststroke (122kcal). David Lloyd leisure centres in Kidbrooke and Beckenham both have pools with dedicated lanes for swimming, aqua aerobics classes and swimming lessons.
See davidlloyd.co.uk

HEALTH & FITNESS *NOTEBOOK*

Handy hints for winter wellbeing

WINTER COLOUR

Brighten up the dark winter mornings with the Oranges wash bag (£29.50) by East Dulwich-based Rosa & Clara Designs. Made in Britain from PVC-coated cotton and lined with waterproof nylon, it's perfect to stash your beauty essentials on trips to the gym (or pool). Buy online at rosaandclaradesigns.co.uk

Hot stuff

Keep yourself toasty with ginger, honey and lemon tea. Ginger has thermogenic properties that increase heat in the body, stimulating the metabolism and promoting blood flow. Add three cubes of ginger to boiling water with a slice of lemon and a spoonful of Manuka honey.

Winter glow
Keep your skin glowing throughout the harsh winter with balance me's Radiance Face Oil. It has eight oil extracts including Camelia and Rosehip Oils, alongside the healing blend of Yarrow and Benzoin and English Chamomile, to hydrate the skin, boost plumpness and enhance radiance. Just massage in two drops before moisturising. £30 (30ml).
For your nearest stockist see balanceme.co.uk

3 WAYS TO...
BEAT THE CHRISTMAS BLOAT

Peppermint tea: Make your own bloat-busting drink by adding a few drops of essential peppermint oil into warm water with fresh lime to help relax the digestive tract and reduce IBS symptoms.

Body brushing: Our skin is the largest organ of elimination, so it's important to keep it clear and help it expel toxins. Dry body brushing before you shower helps the movement of lymph fluids.

Probiotics: Sugary foods and alcohol can exacerbate troublesome tummies. A daily probiotic like Renew Life's Ultimate Flora Critical Care (£36.99) lines the stomach with 'friendly' bacteria to support healthy gut function.

Find digestive experts Renew Life's full 10-step guide to beating bloat online at theresident.co.uk

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Knock yourself out
Amy Lamont, a qualified personal trainer and Piloxing instructor, leads Piloxing Knockout classes in Dulwich Village on Thursday mornings (9.30am-10.15am). The 45-minute sessions use body weight exercises, Pilates and boxing moves to work all major muscle groups. Amy guides you through rounds of base exercises (each a different high-intensity core-strengthening exercise) and dynamic, drills. £8 per class.
amylamontfitness.com

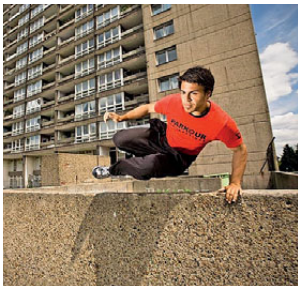
HARD HITTING

High intensity interval training is an effective way to burn fat and boost your metabolism. Here are five classes to keep you fighting fit

Burn it up
The aptly named Burn It Fitness in Blackheath runs a 30-minute HIIT class that utilises bodyweight exercises and plyometric training at high intensity intervals. The class, which runs Tuesdays at 7.30pm, is aimed at those of intermediate to advanced fitness levels. You can even follow it up with the Hard Core class at 8pm, an intensive class that works that all-important core. Together the two classes give you a balanced, fat-burning workout. Classes are £12 each. Packages available.
174 Westcombe Hill, Blackheath SE3 7DH; burnitfitness.co.uk

Get the vibes
Research shows that vibration training increases muscle strength up to 30% more than other forms of exercise. High Vibe in East Dulwich offers bespoke 30-minute personal training sessions on the Vibrogym vibration plate for fitness, weight-loss and rehabilitation. The short sessions are not only easier to fit into a busy schedule, they also put the joints, ligaments and tendons under less pressure, lowering the risk of injury. A session is £17 (10 sessions, £140).
6 Melbourne Grove, East Dulwich SE22 8QZ; highvibe.co.uk

Run the world
Parkour is a high-intensity workout with a difference. The explosive movements needed to leap from pillar to post in this freerunning discipline are great for building fitness. Parkour Generations runs classes at its indoor training zone, specially designed to mimic the outdoors, at Trinity Buoy Wharf. The Mov Fitness class (Tuesdays, 6.30-8pm) uses parkour drills in jumping, vaulting, balancing and climbing drills to improve strength, agility, endurance and power. £10 per class (10 classes, £85).
64 Orchard Place E14 0JY; parkourgenerations.com



Dance the night away
Less HIIT, but more fun, aerobic dance classes can burn around 450 calories an hour if you give it your all. Dancing can also help reduce stress and boost your mood. Beaufit has just launched Thursday evening (7-8pm) dance fitness classes at Mycenae House in Blackheath. Instructor Stephanie Clarke, who trained with the National Dance Company, will lead you through routines designed to increase mobility and cardiovascular endurance. £10 per class (10 classes, £90).
90 Mycenae Road, Blackheath SE3 7SE; beaufit.co.uk

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Edinburgh at dusk, as viewed from Calton Hill

TRIP NOTES

Rooms at 24 Royal Terrace range from £90 per night for an Executive Single to £200 for a Junior Suite. The Executive Apartment is £225 per night. To book call 0131 297 2424 or see 24royalterrace.co.uk

The hotel recaptures Georgian grandeur

MODERN ATHENS

Edinburgh is a beautiful city crammed with awe-inspiring art, architecture and heritage

Words VICTORIA PURCELL

Edinburgh is the Athens of the North, or at least that's how the city fancied itself as it gained a reputation as a centre of ideas in philosophy, economics and medicine in the 1700s. And it wasn't too bold a claim.

With more than 4,500 listed buildings, the beautiful Scottish capital is renowned for its architecture. The Royal Mile, a cobbled street lined with Reformation buildings, stone walls and turrets, leads the way through the Old Town to the magnificent medieval fortress that is Edinburgh Castle, while the New Town boasts pristine Georgian terraces. On one of these, you'll find 24 Royal Terrace, a boutique hotel designed by architect William Playfair in the 1820s, which reopened in the summer after a million-pound overhaul. The original features of the building have been retained and the striking interior design partners antique furnishings with soft furnishings in rich, graphic-print Villa Nova fabrics that invoke a sense of Georgian grandeur for a more contemporary crowd. A black-and-white chequered floor leads you through the door to a smart, red-carpetted staircase. The ascent to your room will take some time, however, because the walls host the hotelier's £500,000 private art collection, including works by Sir Terry Frost and Scottish artists like John Bellany and Henry Kondracki.

Our Feature Deluxe suite had opulent Osborne & Little wallpaper in shades of silver and lilac, jewel-coloured fabrics and a roll-top bath that had crept out of the bathroom to make a statement. The room overlooked the tiered garden, from which you can access Calton Hill. Part of the city's UNESCO World Heritage Site, the hill boasts magnificent views over the city. From there it's a short walk into the centre, where you can choose to wander the Old or New Towns, separated by the lush, green Princes Street Gardens.

A Feature Deluxe Suite at 24 Royal Terrace

Edinburgh is pretty compact, so you can get around most of it on foot. If the hotel's art collection piques your interest, head for the Royal Scottish Academy in the centre of town. Other must-visits include the National Galleries of Scotland – the National (Old Town), Portrait (New Town) and Modern (West End).

All this exploration requires fuel. The Witchery and Castle Terrace, both near Edinburgh Castle, regularly feature on lists of the city's best restaurants, and The Kitchin, by Tom and Michaela Kitchin, has plenty of accolades to warrant the taxi ride to Leith waterfront. To sample the national cuisine, head for Broughton Street, where you can find haggis, neeps and tatties at the charming Café Nom De Plume. Look up Nell Nelson's Edinburgh Food Safari for a walking tour that includes plenty of local delicacies.

Back at the hotel, enjoy a nightcap at rt's bar, which has a fine range of whiskies (the Royal Terrace nickname was once Whisky Row because so many spirit merchants lived there) and cocktails. Then retire to your room, where the Samsung Smart TV lets you stream your current box-set obsession from your own Netflix account. Who needs to visit Europe when a thoroughly Modern Athens is so very close?

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WINNING FORMULA

With secondary schools and problems with places back in the news, one local institution shows the way forward

Words MARK KEBBLE

If I was a little more cynical, I would have raised an eyebrow at the trophy that greets me as I walk into Mark Hudson's headmaster's office at Kew House School – but you get the sense this is part of the norm at this incredibly successful independent senior school. 'I didn't think we would be a football school,' he says, explaining it's for winning a recent under 12 5-a-side tournament, 'but that success flows through the school. Success breeds success. I am very keen to promote our sports people.'

Since opening its doors in September 2013 – the third school managed by the Gardener Schools Group (formerly London Preparatory Schools) – Kew House School has experienced unprecedented success. 'Remarkable,' is how Mark sums up those three years. 'The enthusiasm of our parents and children has really been remarkable. The students love coming to school, they come in with a smile on their faces. It's a happy, hard working school. The spirit and atmosphere has exceeded my wildest dreams. Parents like the curriculum structure, they love the facilities and most importantly they appreciate the quality of teaching.'

The spirit and atmosphere in the school has exceeded my wildest dreams

Demand for entrance at 11+ continues to grow – 'We have nearly 300 students in the school, we probably expected to be at around 180 after year three,' Mark smiles – so it's little surprise that September 2016 will see the launch of their Sixth Form. 'That was always intended,' Mark points out, 'Kew House was set up as an 11-18-year-old school. We have a brand new Sixth Form block on the drawing board. Our original Year 9s have now reached Year 11, so they will form the first intake to the Sixth Form in 2016, along with a few external students who will join at that point, subject to them meeting the entrance criteria. We will be looking for a level of maturity in those students. Do they share the enthusiasm for learning we have got here?'

Students heading into the new Sixth Form block will enjoy the same high quality facilities

As Mark gives me a guided tour, it's amazing to see how much has changed at Kew House School since I first visited two years ago. There are new classrooms, state-of-the-art equipment, a theatre space that seats 300 – and by using some clever design tricks, the new Sixth Form block will actually see the school have more outside space rather than less.

'There will be 12 teaching spaces and, most importantly, we have designed an independent learning centre,' Mark says on what to expect. 'It's my belief that students in the Sixth Form will need to adapt to being independent learners. We will be offering three A levels, although some may be able to do four. All lessons will be three hours long [Kew House School has become renowned for its longer lessons from Year 7 through to Year 11], two sessions a day, reflecting what they will experience at university.'

Everything about Kew House School exudes positivity and, with the demand, would they open another school? After a brief pause and smile, Mark does suggest the Gardener Schools Group are considering another site, but he's quick to add: 'I am not going anywhere.' Expect many more trophies to be on show in the years to come.

Kew House School is now accepting applications for Sixth Form entrance in 2016 and will be holding an Open Evening on 19 January, 2016, at 7pm. For more details, please call 020 8742 2038 or visit kewhouseschool.com

Christmas CHEER

A recent study states our children are some of the unhappiest in the world. So how do we put a smile on back on their faces?

Words SOPHIE STEAD

The Dalai Lama has launched a mindfulness course, with the extra-curricular seen as a vital way to let pupils blow off some steam

If you ask parents what they want their children to be when they grow up, they often say 'happy'. If you ask children what they want to be they shout out dream jobs, from a pilot and doctor, to engineer and astronaut. Learning how to be happy often isn't seen as a priority when you are young. However, in a recent study by the Children's Society, English school children are among some of the unhappiest in the world. An important question to consider is how can we protect our children from this trend?

Mindfulness

Mindfulness may have once sat firmly in the realm of the self-help bookshelves, but the results for lowering stress levels, depression and increasing happiness has meant that it has now become part of mainstream society and now part of some schools' curriculum. Even the Dalai Lama has got involved. In September, he launched a mindfulness course, exploring a series of questions to help understand what would make a happier society with proven results on individual wellbeing.

Mindfulness is the technique of focusing the mind on the 'now' and enjoying the present rather than thinking ahead to worries around the corner. In an age where children are bombarded with information almost every waking hour, mindfulness provides that much needed quiet moment to recoup and bring a sense of calm. Dr Anthony Seldon, the outgoing Master of Wellington College, made headlines when he introduced mindfulness lessons into his school. Offering support strategies to children when they are still young allows them to build resilience and develop clever ways of dealing with problems that come their way at any stage in their lives.

Prior Preparation

Exams are a stressful part of school life for any child and increasing exam pressure has seen the rates of depression in schools rise rapidly over the last decade. However, it doesn't need to be that way. Putting together a plan with your child far ahead of their exams allows them to feel in control of their time, knowing that they will reach their goals if they keep to plan. It's easy for your own anxieties about exams to feed back down to your children, but a clear understanding of what the exam is about, where your child needs to focus and what the end goal is makes the whole experience much calmer.

A Problem Shared

The Children's Society are calling for counselling to be provided as mandatory in schools across England. Vocalising their feelings on a particular issue is the first step to encouraging children to be open about the problems or anxieties that they are facing at school and understand how to solve those problems. This can be easily integrated into home life, whether it's a chat in the car on the way home from school or sitting down as a family a couple of nights a week to talk through everyone's day.

Extra-Curricular Activities

There is nothing like getting outside of the classroom and doing other activities to really blow away those worries. Having a good range of extra-curricular interests that your child enjoys and aren't exam-focused will allow them to build their confidence and understand that school, although crucially important, is only one aspect of a well-rounded part of growing up. Life is all about balance.

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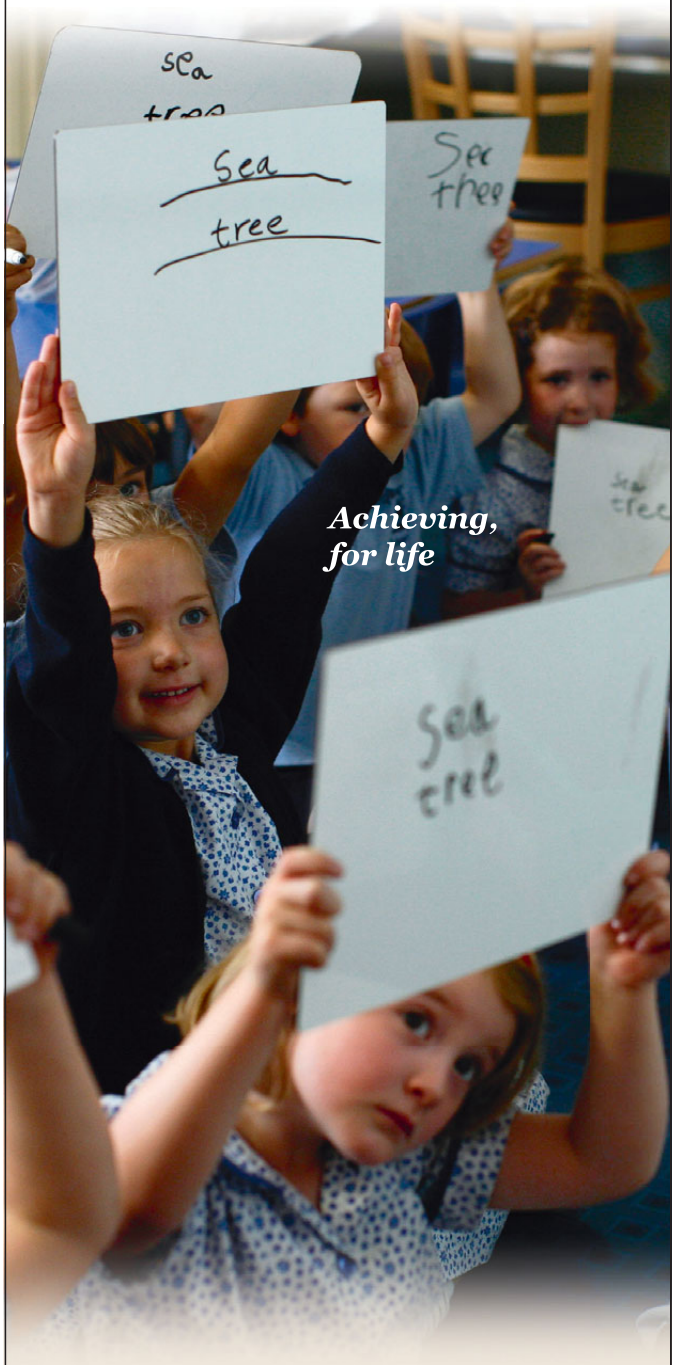

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Sports promote teamwork, but are they competitive enough in schools?

TO DO LIST

If it were possible to gift wrap the UK education system, what would parents, pupils and teachers wish for in 2016?

BY SUE LAIDLAW

It has, as ever, been a busy year in the world of education with plenty of change occurring and developments unfolding. Everyone within education, as well as most parents, will have strong views on these matters. At this time of year, it seems the perfect time to delve into the thoughts of those involved in schools and ask what would make the ideal 'presents'.

I asked a wide variety of London-based people involved in education, ranging from Heads of Junior and Senior Schools, within both the state and independent sectors; exams officers; parents and children. Presents could be small or large; trivial or serious. We start with the Head of a well-known London Prep School who probably speaks for many when she told me 'my ideal present for the education industry overall in 2016 would be less "red tape", particularly with regard to Health and Safety, fewer changes and to allow schools to get on with the job of teaching the children in their care!' This theme echoed through a number of responses and there is a feeling amongst teachers of the desire to be able to get on with the professional job of teaching children.

Another heartfelt cry came from Sam Waterkeyn, a talented Rugby-playing Year 10 boy, who has just started his GCSE courses and has reflected the opinions of many other Year 10 pupils. He stated that the reintroduction of coursework in the GCSE syllabus would be his suggested present. A father of three children in London day schools suggested that one single examination board for all examinees would be the ideal present to the education industry. Many would agree and perhaps this would also make exams officers, GCSE and A level candidates happy too.

There's a desire to be able to get on with the job of teaching children

So what about parents? Sport in schools featured widely – there were requests for more rugby in state senior schools and more sport in schools, generally – and, in particular, more competitive sport. Aine Callington, mother of two sons at a local primary school, voiced the opinions of many parents when she told me: 'Nothing annoys me more than the "everyone's a winner" mentality. Life's not that simple and to drive kids and make them more competitive they sometimes have to learn to lose.' Succinctly put, another parent simply suggested: 'The introduction of a new subject in schools called "Carrying your own pack in life".'

Controversial? Perhaps. Personal opinions? Definitely, but certainly interesting. Happy Christmas to you all and let's see what 2016 brings to the world of education.

Sue Laidlaw is Senior Partner of Laidlaw Education Group. For more information call 020 8487 9517 or visit laidlaweducation.co.uk

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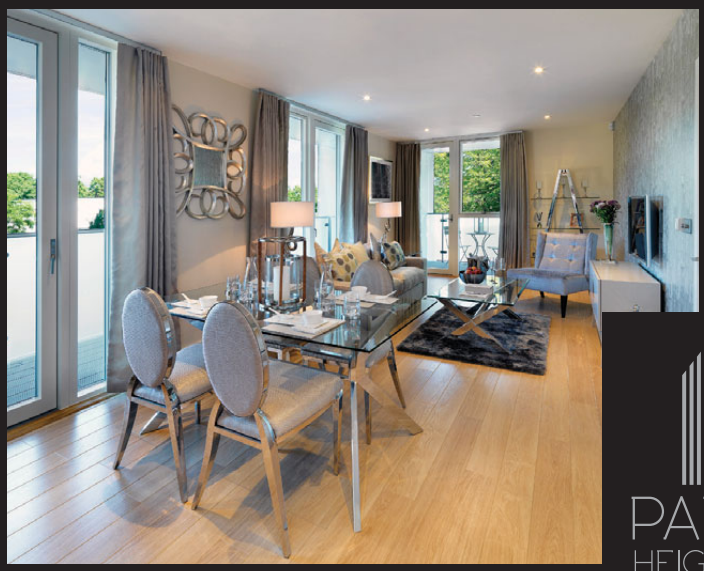
A contemporary new home that embraces open-plan living

This newly built contemporary home in Dulwich Village takes stylish, functional, open-plan living to a new level. The property features a bespoke kitchen with Gaggenau integrated appliances and bi-fold doors leading to a secluded terrace. For further information and more homes with kitchens that will make hosting family and friends over Christmas a dream, see page 88



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Rising high

Graham Colliss, branch manager of Franklyn James, Blackheath, on south east London's rapidly rising prospects

The skyline of south east London is criss-crossed with cranes, something that's immediately striking when approaching from any direction. Building is afoot at something of a rapid pace, which is no bad thing, as parts of the area have lain defunct or derelict for decades. Long-neglected areas are now seeing swathes of regeneration. There are new homes, redesigned open spaces, improved infrastructure and new amenities popping up all over the place.

Kidbrooke Village is an impressive local development with redesigned open spaces

I, for one, am particularly pleased to see this turnaround. Having been brought up in south east London, it is heart-warming to see these truly historic parts of London being restored, revamped and made available for housing once more.

A number of new developments have already changed the landscape, such as The Greenwich Collection, Deals Gateway, Renaissance, Meridian Quay and, of course the well known Kidbrooke Village. All of these have proved immensely popular and have provided a welcome change, adding a rich contrast of new and old architecture.

These schemes inevitably attract a diverse mix of residents to the area, from professionals who want to be a stone's throw from the City, Docklands and central London, to couples and young families. Some of the new developments have replaced unattractive and notorious estates, so they are truly positive moves and the amenities that follow are also appreciated by locals looking for convenience.

Our very successful Docklands offices have been serving this market for quite some time now, and at our new Blackheath office, we have already met and been instructed by a number of residents within these developments who, over the last few years, have seen enough capital growth that they can purchase a bigger property or invest in a buy-to-let.

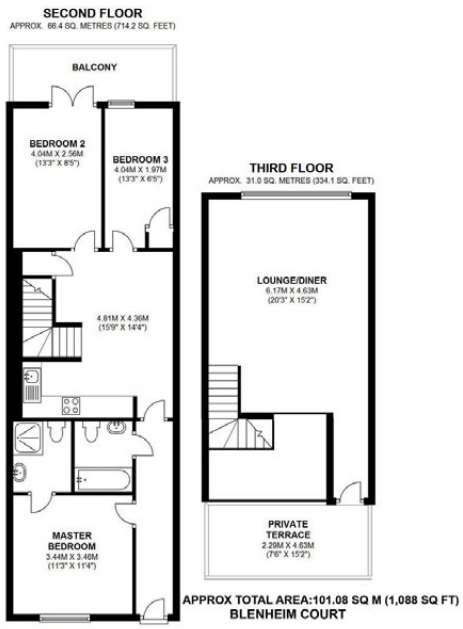
It is this prosperity and the robust nature of the London market that makes it so popular with domestic and foreign investors. London has always been popular on the international investment scene and south east London is now attracting attention from all corners of the globe.

The development around the Greenwich Peninsula area is particularly exciting, building on the popularity of the Greenwich Millennium Village. The O2 is about to be dwarfed by the creation of new homes, art facilities, performing spaces, film studios and, of course, retail spaces.

The inevitable population growth that results from such regeneration means that infrastructure will come under pressure. Consultations are currently underway for the Silvertown Tunnel, which would provide welcome relief for the local roads (albeit to the short-term dismay of Blackwall Tunnel users, who are soon to be levied for using the Blackwall Tunnel), and the restructuring of the roads in Lewisham is a further indication that the area is gearing up for growth and expansion.

Meanwhile, we are doing much the same, having employed multilingual staff, including speakers of Mandarin and Cantonese, in order to better serve our clients and customers. Our next step is the preparation for our second office south of the river, due to open in Greenwich in the spring!

See franklynjames.co.uk



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Docklands deluxe

Barratt London has launched Helsinki Court, the latest phase of development at Greenland Place in Deptford. Located near the Greenland Docks on Evelyn Street, the collection of 562 stylish apartments ranges in size from one-bedroom suites to one, two and three-bedroom apartments. Each apartment has open-plan living areas and its own terrace or balcony. Residents can also enjoy the landscaped internal courtyards, fitness suite, cycle storage and 24-hour concierge service. You can even reach Canary Wharf by ferry from Greenland Pier. Prices from £365,000.

See barrattlondon.com/greenland or call 0844 811 4334

PROPERTY *NEWS*

The latest on south London homes and interiors

DULWICH BOOMS

House prices in Dulwich Village have risen by a record 863% rise over two decades, making it the capital's top spot for price growth. A new report by Knight Frank, who recently opened an office in Dulwich Village, shows that the average cost of a flat in Dulwich was £58,000 in 1995, compared to today's average asking price of £415,000. A three-bedroom family home could be bought for £81,500 back then, but today you're looking at around £800,000.

This beautiful chapel houses luxury apartments

SPIRITED AWAY

If ever there was a reason to move beyond the boundaries of the M25, it's this beautiful Wesleyan chapel in Boughton-under-Blean, Faversham ME13. It has been developed into apartments, the most prestigious of which is a one-bedroom duplex conversion apartment with imposing, double-height ceilings, a mezzanine and magnificent period features including stained-glass windows. As well as a classically styled bathroom with roll-top bath, it also features a contemporary kitchen with stainless steel integrated appliances.

On the market for £325,000 with Foundation Property Services on 01227 752 617
See foundationproperty.co.uk

SELF-BUILD HOMES

Lewisham Council recently agreed to progress a new community-led self-build development in Ladywell. Rural Urban Synthesis Society (RUSS), a local, volunteer-run co-operative housing association, has been selected to develop the long-term affordable homes, which will see residents building 33 new high-quality, sustainable homes on the site of the old Watergate School off Church Grove SE13. The project, part of the council's New Homes, Better Places programme, aims to create affordable housing for people from diverse social and economic backgrounds, with one to four-bedroom homes available on a range of tenures. Work is due to start on site in spring 2017.

See churchgrove.info

How the Ladywell self-build homes may look

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Eltham Park — Guide Price £600,000

Located within the much sought after Eltham Park area and within walking distance of Eltham Station is this extended semi-detached bungalow that is presented to a high standard and must be viewed.
EPC Rating - E

Contact Sarah or Brian on 020 8859 9600

Telegraph Hill — Guide Price £1,250,000

A large four bedroom house located on a sought after tree-lined road in the Telegraph Hill Conservation Area overlooking Telegraph Hill Park. The property retains a wealth of period features with high ceilings, large sash windows and solid wood floors. EPC Rating - E

Contact Ben Small on 020 7647 7711

Hither Green — OIEO £450,000

We are proud to present this stunning lower ground floor flat set in a grand Victorian building on a popular road only a short stroll from Blackheath.
EPC Rating - D

Contact David Meredith on 020 8297 8777

Sydenham — £1195 PCM fees apply

Stunning & spacious one bedroom ground floor flat located in a central location that has been redecorated in neutral tones throughout and boasts many period features as well as both a garden & garage.
EPC Rating - D

Contact Catfod Lettings on 020 8698 1234

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Catford

£550,000-£575,000

EPC Rating - TBC

Contact Lee Savigar on 020 8698 1234

Immaculate, recently refurbished semi detached family home, three bedrooms, three receptions. Sold with no onward chain, viewing is a must on this little gem.

Entrance hall, two receptions, fitted kitchen diner with bi-fold doors, three/four bedrooms, fitted bathroom, downstairs WC, OSP.

Valuations | Sales | Mortgages | Conveyancing | Lettings

Vicars Hill

£875,000 Guide Price

Located within the Ladywell Conservation area is this charming, 4 bedroom, semi-detached period house.

EPC D

Garthorne Rd SE23 £800,000

Backing on to a nature reserve is this beautiful, 4/5 bedroom house.

EPC D

Bartram Rd SE4 £650,000

This 3 bedroom family home has been extended at the rear.

EPC D

Lewisham Way SE13 £595,000

Part of an imposing Victorian villa is this superb, 3 bedroom maisonette.

EPC D

Wood Vale SE23 £425,000

A well-presented, 2 bedroom, ground floor flat with a fantastic garden.

EPC D

Rosenthorpe Rd SE15 £419,950

A smart, 2 bedroom, first floor period flat with its own front door.

EPC E

Honor Oak Park SE23 £399,995

A stylish, 2 bedroom top floor period flat, moments from Honor Oak Park station.

EPC D

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MY DREAM HOME

This stunning Arts & Crafts apartment in East Dulwich has bags of charm and lovely original features

High ceilings, wooden floors and stained glass windows make this apartment unique

THE GARDENS, SE22

Oliver Burgess
Director, Winkworth

Why it's a great buy

This two double-bedroom apartment is a rare gem offering plenty of space, beautiful high ceilings and a real feeling of grandeur with all the wonderful period features. The beautiful stained glass windows ensure the flat is light and bright throughout. Located moments from Peckham Rye, with easy access to the bars and restaurants of Peckham and Lordship Lane, plus the excellent transport links via East Dulwich and Peckham Rye stations, this apartment is a really great buy.

The wow factor

I love how centrally located the property is, yet the wide open space of Peckham Rye Common is just seconds from your front door.

Who it would suit

A buyer looking for space and character; someone who finds your usual two-bedroom property just doesn't quite satisfy. They are looking for something a little out of the ordinary.

My favourite room

The huge reception room, which has a balcony, those beautiful stained glass windows, a period fireplace and original bread oven.

Why should you buy it

The size, location and period charm combine to make this a very special property indeed.

On the market for £649,950 with Winkworth, Dulwich, on 020 8299 2722

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Kidbrooke Grove SE3

£1550 PCM 2 bed flat

Beautiful 2 double bedroom flat in a much sought after area close to Blackheath Village, approx. 10 mins walk to the station. Well-presented accommodation with neutral décor comprises 2 double bedrooms, one with built in wardrobes, bathroom with shower facility, separate w/c, GCH, large lounge with bay and window seat, fully fitted kitchen/breakfast room.

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Crystal Palace, SE19 **£620,000**

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Crystal Palace, SE19 **£530,000**

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Crystal Palace, SE19 **£399,995**

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Crystal Palace, SE19 **£600,000**

Superbly presented three bedroom detached family home situated within the hugely popular Grangewood Park vicinity. Features include 100ft garden, parking & more.

Crystal Palace, SE19 **£479,995**

Stunning Period three bedroom semi-detached family home located on this hugely popular road. Features include kitchen breakfast room, parking and 120ft garden.

Crystal Palace, SE19 **£1,800 pcm**

Modern three double bedroom town house in great location to Crystal Palace triangle and Norwood junction station. Features include modern kitchen, parking & garden.

Crystal Palace, SE19 **£2,100 pcm**

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Court Lane, SE21, £3,500,000-£3,750,000

Vermillion and Saffron are two new-build contemporary homes that take stylish, functional, open-plan living to new heights. Both feature bespoke kitchens with Gaggenau integrated appliances, including a wine cooler, multifunctional oven, induction hob and warming drawer.

On the market with Harvey & Wheeler, Dulwich, on 020 8693 4321

VISITORS WELCOME

New Farm Avenue, Bromley, BR2, £749,950

This four-bedroom semi-detached family home has been refurbished to include an impressive kitchen/diner with appliances including a large range oven, granite work surfaces, a sit-to island and plenty of room to manoeuvre. There's also a driveway with space for visitors to park.

On the market with Sinclair Hamilton, Bromley, on 020 8464 5566

COUNTRY CHARM

Burney Street, SE10, £4,300pcm

This long-let, four-bedroom Georgian townhouse in Greenwich, just next to the Royal Park, has a spacious kitchen kitted out in a charming country fashion with Shaker-style cabinets, Aga range cooker and a huge farmhouse sink for little helpers to clear up the post-dinner mess.

On the market with JLL, Blackheath, on 020 8852 8855

A HOST'S DREAM

Barry Road, SE22, £1,800,000

This five bedroom semi-detached house has a huge kitchen-diner that combines charm and convenience. There's room for all the family with a breakfast bar and space for a dining table. A double oven and plenty of storage and work surfaces makes this a cook's dream.

On the market with Winkworth, Dulwich, on 020 8299 2722

Online
For more photos from this feature see theresident.co.uk

KEEP YOUR COOL

Underhill Road, SE22, £1,395,000

This five-bedroom Victorian semi has been extended and refurbished by somebody who loves to entertain. The huge, contemporary kitchen/diner/reception leads straight out onto the patio terrace, should things get a little heated on Christmas Day. But with a range of modern appliances, large American-style fridge and sleek, glossy cabinets, this is one kitchen where keeping your cool should be a cinch.

On the market with Winkworth, Dulwich, on 020 8299 2722

KALLARS
PROPERTY AGENTS

Pepys Road, Telegraph Hill SE14
O.I.E.O £1,300,000

This remarkable (circa) 1878 Victorian semi-detached house, situated in one of Telegraph Hill's most iconic roads, offers 2500 sq. ft. (approx.) of traditional and classical accommodation split over four floors. This five double bedroom home – three of which retain the original fireplaces – consists of a 30 ft. (approx.) lounge graced with two original marble fireplaces, fully tiled shower room and separate cloakroom. The kitchen includes a central island and work surfaces of Welsh Slate and leads to the dining room, with access to the well-kept landscaped garden via French doors. If you need to bring your work home, you will have a place of solace in the peaceful office. The hallway leads you to the bathroom, decorated in an Edwardian style and with a lavish cast iron bath. The basement, with ample living accommodation and its own private entrance, would be ideal for that teenager looking for some independence or as a welcoming place to host visiting relatives or friends.

Brockley Rise, Honor Oak Park, SE23
O.I.E.O £399,999

Neutrally decorated throughout, Kallars are delighted to unveil this charming period property.
With two double bedrooms to the rear and a front facing reception room, the property layout has been taken into careful consideration. Sash bay windows in the reception room allow in an abundance of natural light, turning what is arguably the most important room in the property into a comforting sanctuary.
In the kitchen, gloss white base and wall units with black marble effect work tops keep to a clear cut appearance whilst maximising storage opportunities; perfect for those who enjoy preparing food whilst gazing out of the window on a chilled winter day.
The property then offers not only a very generous sized bathroom, but also a shower room. Snuggled in-between Honor Oak Park Train Station and Forest Hill Train Station, London commuters have a choice on transport links into the city.
Currently tenanted until the 20th February 2016, achieving £1,250 per calendar month.

Brockley Rise, Honor Oak Park, SE23
O.I.E.O £419,999

Stylishly decorated throughout; Kallars are delighted to reveal this charming period property.
This split level accommodation offers three double bedrooms, kitchen/diner, separate reception room, shower room and bathroom; the layout has been taken into careful consideration. Sash windows in the reception room allow a richness of natural light; perfect for entertaining guests. The kitchen/diner is of a good size. Comprising of gloss white base and wall units with a black marble effect worktop, presenting a clean cut appearance whilst maximising storage opportunities. Ideal for a social gathering. The property then offers not only a very generous sized bathroom, but also a shower room. Snuggled in-between Honor Oak Park Train Station and Forest Hill Train Station, London commuters have a choice of transport links into the city.
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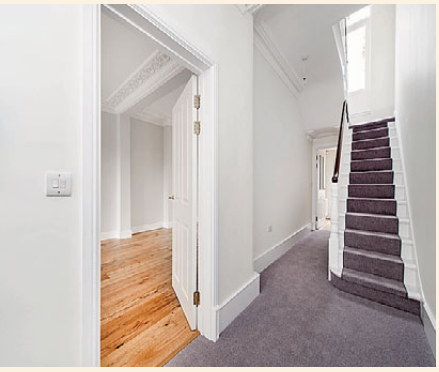

ST MARY'S ROAD, SE15

£1,499,000

Out of the three (half) stucco-fronted Victorian houses in this short terrace, this middle home is the only one with a portico balcony. The house has been completely stripped back, intelligently remodelled and where possible, restored. The plumbing and wiring are new, intricate coving in the double reception has been meticulously revived and superior fittings have been installed. New sash windows are fitted and many are huge, there's a zoned central heating system and a cable and wired media set-up (for television and internet connection). The basement kitchen/diner is gorgeous, there are four double bedrooms and two beautifully finished bathrooms. Close to schools and zone 2 train/London Overground links at Queen's Road and Nunhead. Simple chain-free sale.

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CRYSTAL PALACE ROAD, SE22 £1,000,000

The deep pitches on the roofs and arched window lintels give this terrace of houses very attractive facades. Being halls-adjoining means your party walls are somewhat noise-sulated and being semi-detached gets you a gateway between your back garden and front off-street parking spot. 4 doubles, kitchen/diner and south-facing garden. Near great local schools and East/North Dulwich stations.

CHOUMERT SQUARE, SE15 £575,000

Magical house in a cobbled lane that's tucked a short way from surprisingly good amenities. Unusually, this lane remains an untouched oasis that will reaffirm your love of this historical city. Deservedly proud of their habitat, residents are a friendly bunch who rally round and help keep communal areas beautiful. 2 bedrooms, walled communal gardens and end-of-terrace.

For lettings call Kelly or Toni

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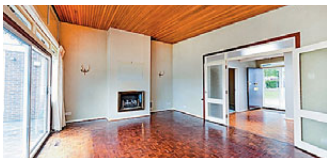

TOLLGATE DRIVE SE21 — **Sole Agents**

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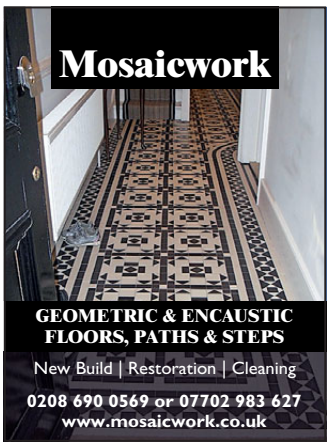

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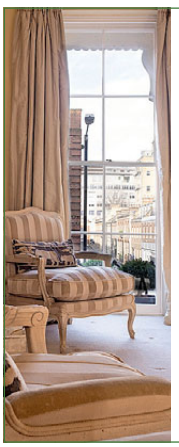

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